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Asian Development Bank Set for Annual Meeting

To Double Fund-Raising in 1992

*OW0205113192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1043 GMT
2 May 92*

[Text] Hong Kong, May 2 KYODO—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) plans to more than double its fund raising in capital markets from 1.3 billion dollars in 1991 to 3 billion dollars in 1992, ADB sources said Saturday. The Manila-based international financial bank will hold its 25th annual meeting Monday through Wednesday in Hong Kong.

The active fund raising is in response to strong money demand from the Asian region, which is showing steady economic growth in comparison with other regions, the sources said. The fourth ordinary capital increase, beginning in 1994, is topping the agenda of the Hong Kong meeting to meet such strong fund demand for investment, they said. ADB's ordinary capital is the major source for loans to member countries, including Indonesia, India, China, and Pakistan.

The ADB earlier agreed with a syndicate of regional banks and financial institutions to issue 500 million Hong Kong dollar bonds with a maturity of seven years, following success of its "dragon bond" issue in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taipei late last year.

Japan's Hata Arrives

*OW0205103592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1013 GMT
2 May 92*

[Text] Hong Kong, May 2 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata arrived at Hong Kong's Kai Tak Airport on Saturday night to attend the annual three-day Asian Development Bank (ADB) meeting which starts Monday. The finance minister is to deliver a speech Tuesday at the 25th annual meeting scheduled to be held at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center, Japanese officials said.

Japan, along with the United States, has the biggest share in the ordinary capital of the Manila-based international financial bank.

During his stay here, Hata is to meet ADB President Kimimasa Tarumizu and key representatives from the 52 countries and economies that are members of the bank. Some nations in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), including Russia and Azerbaijan, are scheduled to sit in on the ADB meeting as observers.

Hata on Economy, ADB Status for CIS

*OW0505091192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT
5 May 92*

[Text] Hong Kong, May 5 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata said here Tuesday he hopes the yen will become stronger in foreign exchange terms as its current level "doesn't reflect Japanese economic fundamentals."

The comment came in a press meeting after Hata attended a meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) which got under way here Monday.

However, Hata said the yen could have been much weaker than it is if the financial authorities of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations had not included their readiness to accept a higher yen in statements issued after their meeting in late April.

He also said Japan's stock prices have "hit bottom," and will start recovering in the near future.

Hata said his ministry does not see any need at this point to set a supplementary budget for the current year at an early date or to introduce any additional pump-priming economic measures such as easier interest rates.

Japan has already decided on a series of measures to beef up its slowing economy, he said, pointing out as an example the government's decision to front-load some 75 percent of planned fiscal 1992 public spending in the first half of the fiscal year.

"Japan should be careful not to bring on inflation or fiscal deficit," Hata said.

On the U.S. reluctance toward an ADB plan to increase its capital, Hata said, "I don't think the U.S. is opposed to the plan itself, but wants to examine the current situation."

As for the issue of ADB membership for individual nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Hata said that some developing nations are complaining that it would be unfair if the CIS was allowed to participate in the ADB as well as in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Japan will welcome the CIS nations into the ADB when such complaints are resolved, Hata said.

Japan Supports ADB Plan To Increase Capital

*OW0505054792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0537 GMT
5 May 92*

[Text] Hong Kong, May 5 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata said Tuesday Japan supports an Asian Development Bank (ADB) plan to increase its capital.

The plan was proposed by ADB President Kimimasa Tarumizu on Monday when the Manila-based organization opened a three-day annual meeting here.

Hata also said the ADB needs to use more joint financing methods with other organizations and sectors, and further nurture the Asian capital market as a means of encouraging more private funding.

Japan itself will make more efforts to increase its direct investment in other parts of Asia and will seek joint financing with international organizations including the ADB, Hata said.

Hata expressed a special welcome to representatives from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) who participated in the ADB general meeting as observers, saying Japan will further support CIS efforts to shift to a market economy.

The United States, meanwhile, called for a cautious attitude about the ADB's capital-increase plan, saying such a boost should come after the bank sets a clear policy for more utilization of private capital.

The U.S. also said the ADB should reconsider its funding to nations which have a current surplus or ample foreign reserves.

Japan, NATO Agree To Expedite Dialogue

OW0505044392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0416 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Brussels, May 5 KYODO—Japan and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) have agreed to expedite close bilateral dialogue on security policies to cope with political uncertainty following the end of the cold war, Japanese officials said Monday.

The accord came in a meeting between Sohei Miyashita, director general of Japan's Defense Agency, and NATO's Deputy Secretary General Amedeo de Franchis as well as other NATO officials, the Japanese officials said.

The meeting marked the first official visit by a Japanese defense minister to NATO headquarters in Brussels.

In the meeting, Miyashita and NATO leaders exchanged views on the military situation in Europe and on cooperation between Japan and NATO following the dissolution of the former Soviet Union, the officials said.

When Miyashita spoke about a government-proposed bill which would allow Japan's Self-Defense Forces to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations, the NATO officials expressed understanding, the officials said.

The defense chief told reporters after the meeting, he was "impressed that the interest shown by European nations in Japan's peacekeeping efforts is positive."

But Miyashita said, "Each nation's peacekeeping operations have been prepared with ideas in accordance with its national interests...Japan should also follow suit."

OECD To Expand Imports From CIS, East Europe

OW0205074492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0659 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, MAY 2 KYODO—The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is expected to adopt a report, calling upon member nations to expand imports from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), and East European countries, Japanese Government sources said Saturday.

The report will be authorized at a ministerial meeting of the Paris-based body of 24 rich nations on May 18 and 19. The meeting is in preparation for the July Munich summit of leaders from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations, the sources said.

OECD member nations are being urged to give CIS and East Europe preferential trade treatment, more market-opening steps and technical assistance, the report said.

As for market access, Western industrialized nations should focus on further opening their markets in farm, textiles, and steel industries, in which the former communist nations have products for exports, the report said.

Japan To Offer Resource Loans to PRC

OW0405133092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1314 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Hong Kong, May 4 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata met Li Guixian, president of the People's Bank of China, on Monday and said that Japan will provide 700 billion yen in loans for the development of resources in China, Japanese officials said. Notes on the loans will be signed in June, they said. Hata is here to attend an annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank.

The untied loans will target 27 projects for development of oil and coal. China requested the new loan for development of resources when then Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto visited China in January last year. Japan provided 420 billion yen for the first resource loan in 1979 and 580 billion yen for the second resource loan in 1984.

Japan

EPA Chief Returns From Washington Conference

OW0305071192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0644 GMT
3 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 3 KYODO—Economic Planning Agency [EPA] Chief Takeshi Noda returned to Japan on Sunday after talks with officials of the U.S. Council of Economic Advisers in Washington.

Investors Cautious About U.S. Treasury Auction

OW0205080292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0750 GMT
2 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—Japanese life insurers and trust funds, due to the decreased hidden value of their Japanese stocks, are becoming more cautious about taking part in the upcoming 36 billion dollar U.S. Treasury securities auction, industry sources said Saturday. The U.S. Treasury plans to carry out the auction of 3-, 10-, and 30-year Treasury securities on May 5-7.

"Japanese investors don't have enough money to invest in foreign securities," an analyst with a major brokerage house said.

The weak yen against the U.S. dollar, which stems from a steady recovery of the U.S. economy is also dampening Japanese investors, the analyst said. However, in recent auctions, Japan's money, which has shrunk because of the collapse of the so-called bubble economy, has had little impact on the U.S. Treasury auction, according to the sources.

Mitsubishi To Buy Auto Parts From Chrysler

OW0205074292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0711 GMT
2 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—Mitsubishi Motors Corp. will buy 1.2 billion dollars worth of engines and transmissions from Chrysler Corp. for use at Mitsubishi's U.S. subsidiary, automobile industry sources said Saturday.

Diamond Star Motors (DSM), with an output capacity of 240,000 vehicles per year, plans to mount the U.S.-made engines and transmissions in the passenger car models, beginning in 1994, the sources said.

The purchase is the biggest deal since January, when pledges were made by Japanese automakers to increase their imports of U.S.-made auto parts during President George Bush's visit to Japan.

DSM was set up in 1985 in Illinois as a 50-50 percent joint venture between Mitsubishi Motors and Chrysler. In August, 1991, Chrysler agreed to sell all its DSM stock to Mitsubishi Motors.

Tokyo To Boost Imports of U.S. Corn for Starch

OW0405065392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0638 GMT
4 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 4 KYODO—Japan plans to expand imports of U.S. corn processed as starch over the next three years, officials with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said Monday.

The officials said details will be negotiated with the United States this month but Japan is planning to boost imports by 100,000-200,000 tons per year. In fiscal 1991, 3.45 million tons were imported.

An interim bilateral agreement on the import quota expired at the end of March.

They said similar measures are being considered for dairy goods as well.

Currently, 50 percent tariffs are imposed on corn that exceeds the quota under the tariff quota system. The U.S. is pressing for the tariff to be reduced, but as imported products are less than half the price of domestic ones, the officials hoped to minimize expansion of imports and reduction of the tariffs to protect domestic prices from a collapse.

A dispute-settling panel of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) has ruled that the Japanese import limitations on starch and dairy foods violate GATT regulations.

Japan initially hoped to settle the issue on a multilateral basis, but this became unlikely after the U.S. indicated it might refile the issue with GATT.

Analysts say the U.S. is hardening its stance as Washington is being pressured by agricultural sectors prior to the November presidential elections.

Okinawa Landowners To Protest Forced Land Use

OW0405030292 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese
4 May 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] The Okinawa Prefecture Land Expropriation Commission, whose chairman is Yasuhiro Gibo, has decided that the land expropriated for military use be continuously expropriated for the same use for the next five years. Some landowners have decided to file an administrative litigation with the commission on 13 May to demand revocation of the decision. Of the 585 owners of the land subject to this decision, 31 including those affiliated with the Military-Land Landowner Association for Defending Rights and Property (the Antiwar Landowners Association) have decided to file the administrative litigation with the commission. The landowners are poised to demand the revocation of the decision, citing unfair public hearings at which landowners could not express their views.

Regarding the land in question, lease contracts were concluded between its landowners and the director general of the Naha Defense Facilities Administration Bureau at the time when Okinawa was reverted to the Japanese rule, and the lease contracts were due to expire on 30 April this year. The landowners have rejected a request from the bureau for the renewal of the lease contracts. After obtaining approval of the prime minister, the landowners filed a request with the commission in November 1990 to decide on the lease contract. Upon receiving the request from the landowners, the commission has held eight rounds of public hearings since last August. The commission, based on the results of the public hearings, decided on 12 February that, except for some land, the land expropriated for military use be continuously expropriated for the same use for the next five years.

Regarding the public hearings, the landowners have claimed that the commission made a decision 12 days after abruptly halting the public hearings on 21 January, and only one landowner could express his view at the public hearings, while pointing to the lack of fair procedure at the public hearings. This complaint has led the landowners to file the administrative litigation against the commission's decision.

The Antiwar Landowners Association filed an administrative litigation with the commission on 12 May 1987, demanding the revocation of its decision to allow the forced use of land for military use for the next 10 years. The litigation is still pending. As a result, the association has filed two administrative litigations against the commission's decisions. The landowners, who are discontent with the proceedings of the public hearings on the forced use of land for military use, are likely to take their case to court.

Miyazawa Holds News Conference in Bonn 30 Apr

*OW0105044792 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1640 GMT 30 Apr 92*

[News conference by Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa with unidentified reporters at the Scandic Crown Hotel in Bonn—live]

[Text] [Unidentified moderator] We will now begin a news conference with Prime Minister Miyazawa. Before taking questions from reporters, the prime minister will make a statement.

[Miyazawa] The summit meeting of industrialized nations is set to be held in July. I visited France and Germany to meet with President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl before the summit. Our talks produced good results. To explain the talks held between me and the leaders of the two countries: I discussed the changed international situation following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the EC-held talks in Maastricht, and the EC's political integration, which is making substantial progress. I talked with them about the overall trends of

the world economy and the issue of aid to the CIS. I also discussed bilateral relations. This is what I discussed with the two leaders.

I found that exchanges between Germany and the Soviet Union, [corrects himself] no France, are growing. Mr. Beregovoy came to Japan in January before he became prime minister and I have met him at G-5 [as heard] meetings on many occasions. Defense Minister Joxe has visited Japan. In May, Foreign Minister Dumas will visit Japan. As regards Germany, Foreign Minister Genscher made a visit to our nation in February. I will attend the summit set to be held in Munich. I invited Chancellor Kohl to visit Japan in October. I came to feel the necessity to expand exchanges and contacts between Japan and these two countries. I found that France hopes for more investments from Japan and intends to expand trade with us; I noticed this climate in France during my stay in that country.

I want to add something concerning aid to the CIS: The G-7 and the IMF have made a decision on aid to the CIS. In the case of our nation, it has the Northern Territories issue with Russia. The solution of the issue should be resolved first, in order for Japan to give full aid to the CIS. The G-7 have a common interest in helping the CIS promote reforms and pursue domestic and foreign policies based on free law and justice. In that sense, the territorial dispute between Japan and Russia is not an issue to be resolved between the two countries, and I think that the issue is a matter of concern for the entire G-7. I have already had opportunities to explain this point to Mr. Major and Mr. Bush. I had yet to explain that point to Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Kohl. I tried to make them understand that point and gained their understanding. This was one of my goals in visiting these two countries.

[Moderator] The prime minister will now take questions.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, as you just said, we are greatly interested in whether the G-7 nations will cooperate with or support Japan's position on the Northern Territories issue. Mr. Prime Minister, you just said that fortunately you gained an assurance that the G-7 nations will cooperate with and support Japan's position. I would like to ask if there was any difference between President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl on Japan's position, and if there is a difference, how do you analyze it?

[Miyazawa] The two leaders told me that the issue should be resolved through dialogue between Japan and Russia. This is a view shared by the two leaders and it was quite natural for them to say it in that way. After hearing my explanations on Japan's position, Mr. Mitterrand told me: Japan should provide aid to the CIS. If Japan takes such a position on the territorial issue, I intend to help resolve the issue if necessary. Regarding the territorial issue, Mr. Kohl told me: He has briefed Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Gorbachev on Japan's position on the issue. From the standpoint that Germany has shared the same experiences and lessons as Japan in the past, he

understands Japan's position well and he thinks that it would be better for Mr. Yeltsin to settle the territorial issue with Japan. Mr. Kohl also told me that if an opportunity arises, he intends to ask Mr. Yeltsin to resolve the territorial issue in a way that will not hurt his feelings, from the standpoint of being his friend. The two leaders think that efforts should be made to settle the territorial issue. In that sense, I believe that I have achieved my goal of asking for their cooperation in resolving the issue.

[Text] [Moderator] Next question please.

[Reporter] Prime Minister Miyazawa, in your address to the UN summit in New York, you said the time is ripe for a solution to the Northern Territories issue. I would like to ask you how France and Germany reacted to this.

[Miyazawa] I used the phrase in New York in January in connection with the Northern Territories issue. Since then, working-level talks have been held between Japan and Russia. The talks produced an agreement on collecting documents. Legal differences between the two countries over the Northern Territories have evaporated. I think this shows some headway has been made. Mr. Yeltsin has been stressing that the territorial dispute between Japan and Russia should be resolved based on law and justice.

I have briefed Mr. Major and Mr. Bush on Japan's position on the Northern Territories issue.

On the occasion of my current visit, Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Kohl expressed in principle their understanding of Japan's position on the issue. They seem willing to help resolve the issue.

Although the territorial dispute cannot be easily resolved, I think the two leaders of Germany and France, as members of the G-7, are beginning to share the opinion that they need to urge Mr. Yeltsin to settle the dispute. Italian Prime Minister Andreotti has long said he intends to urge Mr. Yeltsin to resolve the territorial dispute with Japan. Canada remains uncommitted on the territorial dispute, but I will have an opportunity to explain Japan's position to the leader of that country. I think a rough consensus is forming within the G-7 on the Northern Territories issue.

I will discuss the issue with Mr. Yeltsin in September. No decision has been made on discussions on the issue that will be held during the industrialized nations' summit in July.

[Official] Next question please, from a German reporter.

[Reporter in German with simultaneous Japanese translation] Did you express your concern at the growth in European nations, particularly Germany?

[Miyazawa] Economic issues concerning Germany and European nations were not raised in my talks with Chancellor Kohl. If you are asking what I think about the issues, I think that, in general, unemployment is still high

and interest rates remain high in European nations. I think these are difficult problems.

[Moderator] Next question please....

[Miyazawa, interrupting] German unification is a positive factor from the long-term perspective, but unification will be a burden for Germany for the time being because of the need to spend huge sums of money. I am sure that unification will become a positive factor in the future.

The economies of the Soviet Union and East European nations have been disrupted; those nations are realigning themselves. Their economies will continue to ail for the time being unless they can work with Western nations. I believe their economies will improve in the future.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, you just mentioned German unification. At your talks, did Chancellor Kohl repeat his calls for more Japanese investment in Germany?

[Miyazawa] He did not mention that today. The chancellor has made these kinds of calls when meeting with Japanese missions. I am well aware of them.

[Moderator] Next question, please.

[Reporter] At talks with Mr. Kohl, you stressed the need for Japan and Germany to hold political dialogue. Mr. Prime Minister, you have said that Japan will seek closer ties with the CSCE. I would like to ask how you plan to promote political dialogue between Japan and Germany and seek closer ties with the CSCE.

[Miyazawa] Some issues arising in this connection are refugees, disarmament, and drugs. There is also another issue from within the CIS. It has become necessary to prevent Russian nuclear scientists from emigrating to other nations and to create research centers there where they can work.

There is no venue to discuss these questions and issues. European nations have NATO, the EC, and the CSCE. Japan has no such venue.

The United Nations is committed to dealing only with matters for which it has a mandate.

It has always been asserted, ever since the first industrialized nations' summit, that these kinds of meetings should only tackle economic matters.

Aside from military matters, Japan has no venue in which to discuss global political matters with the seven industrialized nations. I have long felt this omission. At every opportunity, the Foreign Ministry has stressed the need for the seven industrialized nations to discuss global political matters.

At the talks with Chancellor Kohl, I mentioned this need. I told Chancellor Kohl that Japan should participate and wants to learn from other nations, while contributing to global political stability.

The question of Japan's participation in the CSCE was raised in our talks. Since the CSCE has yet to form a secretariat, the chancellor and I only agreed to further study Japan's participation in the CSCE.

[Moderator] Next question please. The gentleman standing at the back, please go ahead.

[Reporter, in German with simultaneous Japanese translation] Is the return of the Northern Territories a prerequisite for economic aid to the USSR?

[Miyazawa] Japan has already made a commitment to provide around \$2.6 billion in aid to the Soviet Union. Furthermore, in the recent IMF meeting, there was a plan to establish a ruble stabilization fund of \$6 billion. Japan will naturally take up a share. In that sense, technical aid and assistance through the United Nations...[corrects himself] I mean the IMF, similar to the one I just cited, not to mention emergency and humanitarian aid, are already under way. And in this sense, we are not taking the position that there will be no aid unless the Northern Territories are returned. Our stance is that we will have to provide aid in various forms in coordination with the G-7 nations. The scale of such aid will be quite substantial. In view of Japan's economic capability, it will have to take up a considerable share of that aid. In that case, it is the G-7's position to help the USSR [as heard] promote reforms and become a state upholding international law and justice. I think we will be providing aid for the realization of such reforms. Therefore, our aid is being provided for that purpose. We also hope that this will produce the desired effect.

What I am saying is that, what the G-7 have in mind right now is that domestically, the USSR should be transformed into a democratic structure and implement the IMF program; politically, it should become a democratic state and control its nuclear weapons; and diplomatically, it should practice a diplomacy based on law and justice. We would like to provide assistance in realizing reforms in these three aspects. We would like to see a response from the USSR...[corrects himself] I should say Russia to be accurate, or the CIS in line with the objective of such aid.

[Moderator] Next question please.

[Hitora] I am MAINICHI SHIMBUN's Hitora. With regard to the earth summit in June and the issue of controlling carbon dioxide emission, in your meeting with Mr. Kohl today it has been reported that Mr. Kohl suggested drafting a compromise proposal also involving the United States. What position is the Japanese Government going to take on this issue? So far, there has been the problem of setting a target figure. Please tell us your view in relation to this.

[Miyazawa] Personally, I think in the future it is desirable to stabilize the emission of carbon dioxide at a level not to surpass a certain year in the past. I still think it would be good to set a goal to work for. However, the summit is fast approaching and it would not be good for

the meeting to break down due to disagreement among the various nations. I think Mr. Toepfer, the environment minister, went to Washington, and he intends to confer with the United States on this. I would like to wait for the result of their consultations.

[Moderator] Next question please.

[Matsuo] I am SANKEI SHIMBUN's Matsuo. During your meeting with Mr. Mitterrand, the Uruguay round was discussed. Mr. Mitterrand said it is not right to only concentrate on agricultural issues—for instance, a meeting was held between Mr. Bush and Mr. Delors—while there are still issues to be discussed in the industrial and services sectors. Mr. Prime Minister, what do you think of this remark?

[Miyazawa] What Mr. Mitterrand wanted to say was although agriculture is important, deliberations in the other areas—I think there are 13 of them—for instance, market access for industrial products, and most-favored-nation treatment in the services—are indeed insufficient. If failure to resolve the agricultural issue means failure in all other areas, then it will not be a faithful reflection of the actual conditions. I think that was his opinion. In this respect, I think he is not wrong. He is right in this regard. I think that is what he meant.

[Moderator] Please.

[Reporter in German with simultaneous Japanese translation] As a follow-up to the earlier question, do you think the return of the Northern Territories will make economic cooperation between Japan and Russia easier in the future?

[Miyazawa] Do you mean will it facilitate economic cooperation?

[Reporter] Yes, that's right, I mean whether it would make mutual economic cooperation easier. My question is: If the Northern Territories are returned, will this make economic cooperation easier? If I may add, my question is: If the return of the Northern Territories is realized, will this facilitate and enhance economic cooperation between Japan and Russia?

[Miyazawa] I see. A peace treaty will be signed between Japan and Russia only if the issue of the Northern Territories is resolved. At present, we do not have a peace treaty. With a peace treaty, other agreements and cooperative relations will come forth very naturally and easily. Therefore, my answer to your question is yes.

[Moderator] Next question, please.

[Izumi] As we have limited time, if the German reporters will excuse me, may I ask a question about domestic politics? I am Izumi from JIJI PRESS. Mr. Prime Minister, when you go home after the holidays you will be facing a very tough situation in the second half of the Diet session. I think the top issue now is what will happen to the PKO [peacekeeping operations] bill—this also has to do with foreign policy. While you are on your

visit here, there have been moves in both the LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] and the opposition parties. Please tell us how you look at the prospects for the second half of the Diet session and what sort of decision you plan to make. In particular, what sort of decision will you make on the issue of revising the bill?

[Miyazawa] There have been three long periods of deliberations on the bill in the Diet. Along with this, the people have also come to understand the issues. On the other hand, there is the actual situation in Cambodia. I think, to a certain extent, the people have come to have an idea of what this means in reality. Under the circumstances, while I think the original draft presented by the government is the best, if a majority in the legislature thinks that certain things should be revised in a certain way, the government may have to be flexible about such views based on the principle of the separation of three powers. That is my opinion. However, what will turn out to be the majority view in the Diet on revisions to the bill still seems unclear. As you said, after the holidays deliberations in the House of Councillors will begin, and there is a possibility for concrete proposals to come about. In the process of giving concrete form to the final bill, if my opinion is sought, it might be necessary to state the government's view in various ways, including doing so behind the scene. I think that is how things are.

This may be irrelevant, but a while ago Mr. Lambsdorff and other parliamentarians came and started talking about PKO. I was baffled. But come to think of it, this issue also exists in Germany. There have been discussions about sending a medical team to Cambodia. Thus, even in this faraway country, there is a discussion about a PKO bill.

[Reporter] In relation to the previous question, Mr. Prime Minister, I would like to ask—as you mentioned just now that you were speaking from the point of the division of the three powers—how you basically feel about diplomacy, as it is a very important type of power for the administration, and, although it may be subject to various controls from the Diet, there probably are areas that should remain sacred.

[Miyazawa] Are you referring to what I just spoke on? Concerning the PKO, the issue is whether we can allow our Self-Defense Forces to participate in the UN peace-keeping operations; therefore, this is not basically a matter of diplomacy, but rather a domestic issue. Thus, I feel that the problem does not involve restricting or distorting diplomatic powers.

[Reporter] Concerning how much weight the issue of the reversion of the Northern Territories should be given by the G-7 members, Chancellor Kohl has remarked that adequate consideration would be given to this issue, but do you feel that this should be high on the agenda at the G-7 summit?

[Miyazawa] To give an accurate answer, the issue of the Northern Territories is basically a problem between our country and Russia, and is not an issue to be discussed

among G-7 members, to be precise. However, since there is the possibility of Mr. Yeltsin's presence at the meeting—maybe not necessarily the G-7 meeting, but he may be there in Munich even as an observer—there should be an opportunity to meet each other, so I intend to take the opportunity of every possible meeting to discuss the issue. This I consider as a possibility, but I do not consider this issue to be a topic of discussion for the summit or G-7 members.

[Moderator] Well, time is running out, so we would like to take the last question. [Words indistinct] please begin. Please state the name of your company.

[Nakanishi] Excuse me, I am Nakanishi from REUTER. Concerning the issue of the Northern Territories, there is talk in Germany that if, for example, it is difficult to expand aid to Russia because the territorial issue exists for Japan, then Russia may be ignored, but Germany still wants Japan to aid the other CIS republics. How do you feel about this?

[Miyazawa] We are not saying that because the territorial issue exists we are not going to send humanitarian and technological aid. As a matter of fact, we have talked about funds for the stabilization of the ruble at the IMF, so please do not misunderstand us. What we are saying is that we want the CIS countries to go through a reformation and enter the world stage, though, of course, Russia is the largest among them, and the major portion of aid will be toward Russia. What I am saying is that to give such aid for promoting reforms in Russia is a common task for the G-7 members.

[Moderator] We have time for one more question. Please go ahead.

[Reporter] Since we are running short of time, I would like to ask a collective question on domestic issues. First of all, concerning the issue of political reform, which is an important topic along with the PKO issue, what points do you plan to emphasize in a broad sense in working out the issue, while talks are currently continuing between the LDP and opposition parties? Also, particularly on the issue of redistribution of unbalanced Diet seating, Mr. Prime Minister, you have said that the "plus four, minus four" [adding four seats in some electoral districts, and reducing four in some others] arrangement is not sufficient. I would like to hear your views on this again.

[Miyazawa] The issue of political ethics has already come to the working-level stage. The remaining problems are those of political funding, Diet reorganization, and the redistribution of the unbalanced Diet seating. All this will be worked out through executive-level meetings, and whichever issues are settled first will be handed down to the working-level stage. Then, draft bills will be submitted to be ratified during the current Diet session. This is what I have been requesting. I did say the "plus four, minus four" arrangement is not sufficient. I still believe so.

[Moderator] The time is up, so we would like to conclude the news conference. The prime minister will leave the conference room now, so would all of you please stand up and remain standing until the prime minister has exited.

Ishida Leaves for Talks With Cambodian Leaders

OW0505055992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0533 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 5 KYODO—Koshiro Ishida, chairman of Japan's second largest opposition party Komeito, left Tuesday for a trip to Thailand, Cambodia, and Malaysia to gauge their stances on legislation that would allow Japanese troops to join U.N. peacekeeping operations abroad.

In Cambodia, Ishida will confer with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council, and Premier Hun Sen, who has urged Japan to send its Self-Defense Forces to join the U.N. peacekeeping forces.

Komeito officials said Ishida will also watch the activities of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

Tokyo, ROK Export-Import Banks To Cooperate

OW0405091692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0904 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 4 KYODO—The export-import banks of Japan and South Korea have agreed to help the two countries' companies boost exports of industrial plants, Japanese bank officials said Monday. The agreement specifically calls for both banks to provide loans to Japanese and South Korean exporters which cooperate to export industrial plants to third countries, the officials said.

South Korea is seeking to boost exports of such plants to lower its current trade deficit, they said.

The agreement follows a meeting last November in Seoul, where Japanese and South Korean machinery exporter associations discussed ways to increase South Korean plant exports, the officials said.

Marubeni To Join Crude Oil Project Off SRV

OW0305032792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0256 GMT 03 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 3 KYODO—Marubeni Corp. of Japan and Norsk-Hydro of Norway will join a French company in a project to develop crude oil off southern Vietnam, the ASAHI SHIMBUN reported Sunday.

The participation of the two companies in the project, under the lead of France's Total Compagnie Francaise des Petroles, is expected to spur offshore oil development in Vietnam, the daily said.

Already, Showa Shell Sekiyu K.K., a Japanese affiliate of Royal Dutch/Shell Group, has obtained oil exploration rights in the offshore oil field southwest of Vietnam.

The Marubeni-Norsk-Hydro consortium is now negotiating with total to acquire a stake of more than 20 percent in the project, the daily said.

Total and the Japanese-Norwegian consortium plan to launch exploration there by the end of the year and begin full-scale production in 1995 for export to Japan and southeast Asia, it said.

Miyazawa Makes SDF Bill Enactment Pledge

OW0405043092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0404 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Karuizawa, Nagano Pref., May 4 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa pledged Monday to enact during the current Diet session a bill to allow the government to deploy Japanese troops overseas for peacekeeping operations.

He made the comment to mark the sixth month anniversary of his administration at a hotel in the resort town of Karuizawa where he is vacationing before the Diet session resumes Thursday when legislators return to the floor of the House of Councillors. The session ends June 21.

The bill, if passed, would allow Self-Defense Forces [SDF] to take part in United Nations' peacekeeping forces in war-torn countries. Since its defeat in World War II, no Japanese forces have been sent into action overseas, except for a minesweeping unit that helped clear mines from the Persian Gulf last year.

The bill is now under tough Diet scrutiny from some opposition parties which have argued the troop deployments would trample the spirit of Japan's post-war Constitution banning any use of force as means of settling international disputes.

Miyazawa has said Japan must participate in U.N. peacekeeping activities if it is to shoulder its international responsibilities to help alleviate the troubles faced by today's world.

Miyazawa also pledged to enact bills that would help clean up Japan's money politics.

Looking back at his political activities in the six months that have elapsed since he came to office, Miyazawa said, "since I took over power, I have been engrossed (in political activities)."

He also vowed to step up efforts to successfully resolve the Japan-Russia territorial row over four Russian-held islands off Japan's northern shores.

His administration "would try to secure further progress to prepare for the upcoming House of Councillors election" to elect half the upper chamber's 252 seats in July, he said.

Constitution Day Rallies Focus on Peacekeeping

*OW0305130192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1216 GMT
03 May 92*

[Text] Tokyo, May 3 KYODO—Political parties and citizens' groups held rallies throughout the country Sunday, the 45th Constitution Day, with attention focused on Japan's proposed participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Makoto Tanabe, chairman of the largest opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP), called at Tokyo's Ueno Park for Japan's international cooperation to be in line with the spirit of the war-renouncing Constitution by establishing a nonmilitary corps to join UN peacekeeping missions abroad.

The government is striving to have passed a bill [passage as received] that would authorize the first overseas dispatch of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to join UN operations.

Article 9 of the Constitution renounces war and the threat or use of force as a means of settling international disputes.

Keigo Ouchi, chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), delivered a lecture at a Tokyo rally that adopted a resolution stating Japanese cooperation with UN peace efforts would comply with the Constitution.

Komeito and the Japanese Communist Party also held their own rallies in front of Shinjuku Station to call for support of the Constitution.

Meanwhile, a rally held by the National Congress for Enacting an Autonomous Constitution, comprising supporters of a constitutional revision among Diet members of the governing Liberal Democratic Party, brought together some 800 people at Chiyoda Ward public hall in Tokyo.

Group leader Mutsuo Kimura, former president of the House of Councillors, appealed for a revision of what the group calls "the U.S.-drafted Constitution."

In a television appearance Sunday, SDP Chairman Tanabe proposed the enactment of a law with a two-year validity to allow SDF officers to participate in UN peacekeeping activities with their military status intact.

The SDP had earlier insisted SDF personnel would have to quit the military to join UN missions abroad.

DSP Chairman Ouchi told another meeting he will suggest the proposed UN legislation include a provision calling for its review three years after enactment.

Students Said Opposed to SDF Overseas Dispatch

*OW0205112392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1103 GMT
2 May 92*

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—More than half of Japan's senior high school students polled oppose the

overseas dispatch of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel for international peacekeeping activities, according to a survey released Saturday on the eve of Japan's Constitution Day.

The survey, conducted last December by Japan Senior High School Teachers' Union, covered 19,859 senior high school students in 25 prefectures. A similar opinion poll has been held every five years, with this year being the fourth.

Asked about overseas deployment of the SDF for international peacekeeping efforts, 51 percent of the respondents said they were opposed, while 19 percent supported it and 30 percent were noncommittal. Only 10 percent of female students supported the idea, compared with 26 percent of the male students surveyed.

The survey said 35 percent considered the SDF to be unconstitutional, down from 38 percent in the previous poll, while 15 percent said it is constitutional, up from 12 percent. Article 9 of Japan's Constitution renounces the threat or use of force as a means of settling international disputes, and says the nation is never to maintain forces for such a purpose. A bill currently being considered in the Japanese legislature, however, would pave the way for the first overseas dispatch of SDF personnel by allowing them to join peacekeeping operations sponsored by the United Nations.

Asked whether they have read the Constitution, 13 percent of the students answered no, 16 percent said yes, and 71 percent said they have read part of the document.

Regarding military conscription, those opposed numbered 82 percent, up from 79 percent in the last poll. Currently, Japan has a volunteer military force.

Asked whether they feel a sense of closeness to the emperor, 56 percent said no, while 12 percent said yes. Previously the figures were 61 percent and 8 percent, respectively. The poll indicated that 29 percent think the existence of the emperor is inconsistent with the constitutional principle of the people's sovereignty, while 32 percent do not think so.

On the right to receive education, 27 percent answered that it is a "secured" right, while 39 percent said it is "not secured enough" and 10 percent said it is "not secured."

Support for lowering the voting age to 18 from the current 20 hit an all-time high of 21 percent, while opposition marked a record low of 30 percent.

Firm Labor Market Means Economy 'Growth Ahead'

*OW0405085192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0815 GMT
4 May 92*

[Text] Tokyo, May 4 KYODO—The firm demand for labor despite the slowdown in the nation's economy shows, for the medium-range, that corporations expect relatively higher economic growth ahead, the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said in a report released

Monday. The report attributed the phenomenon to structural reasons as well as some optimism in long-range corporate sentiment.

The report said that considering the current weak business performance, labor demand may soften in the coming months. From a structural point of view, however, it predicted that labor supply and demand conditions will not ease as significantly as they did in the mid-1980s, when Japan suffered an economic slowdown because of the sharp appreciation of the yen against the U.S. dollar. It said corporations learned from that experience, because companies that had reduced the number of their employees ran into a labor shortage soon after the economy began picking up.

The EPA also cited a government panel's projections that in the medium- to long-term the working population will decline after peaking in 2000. The EPA said this is another reason corporations probably will not simply cut the number of their employees.

The report said current tight labor conditions came about because the nation's economy is now focused on domestic demand, which ignited demand for workers in the service, wholesale and retail, and food industry sectors. The EPA said the shortage is most serious among skilled workers, specialists, engineers, and workers to fill simple jobs.

The report pointed out labor productivity among corporations has declined as a result of increased employment amid stagnant production at a time of the economic slowdown, which is a factor that puts a squeeze on profitability. But it also noted that growth in both income and employment can contribute positively to the economy by increasing consumer spending.

An EPA official said unlike in the past, it is difficult to judge the economic situation merely from labor conditions.

The report concluded that to obtain clues to future labor conditions, it is worth focusing on the effects on corporate sentiment caused by the ongoing inventory adjustments and stock adjustments for investment in plant and equipment.

Number of Overseas Subsidiaries' Loans Decline

OW0305032492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT 03 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 3 KYODO—The balance of loans extended by overseas subsidiaries of 21 Japanese major commercial banks, long-term credit banks, and trust banks at the end of March declined about 1 percent from a year earlier, the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN reported Sunday.

The economic daily, quoting banking sources, said the balance had posted yearly growth of 2 to 3 percent until the end of last year.

The turnaround stems largely from Japanese banks' stepped-up efforts to curb lending abroad following a

steep fall in their ratio of capital to assets due to the plunge in domestic stock prices, which started early this year, the newspaper said.

Japanese banks believe it necessary to slash foreign currency-denominated assets further if domestic equity prices remain weak, it said.

Many major commercial banks, known in Japan as city banks, and long-term credit banks say they will be unable to meet capital-adequacy standards set by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) unless they raise additional funds in subordinated loans, the daily said.

Under the BIS rules, Japan's Ministry of Finance requires city and other internationally active Japanese banks to have capital equivalent to at least 8 percent of their assets by the end of March 1993.

If the domestic stock market remains lackluster, an inflow of Japanese banks' funds from abroad could gain momentum in the months ahead, the paper said.

Miyashita Says 1993 AWACS Purchase Difficult

OW0405072892 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Defense Agency (DA) Director-General Miyashita is currently visiting European nations. In Brussels in Belgium, Miyashita replied to an accompanying reporters' question on the issue of introducing the airborne warning and control system [AWACS]—the key point at issue in the government's Midterm Defense Buildup Program.

He disclosed for the first time that it would be difficult to introduce the AWACS in fiscal 1993. The AWACS is the up-to-date plane capable of detecting invasion by enemy aircraft and commanding and controlling allies.

The DA plans to introduce the four AWACS by fiscal 1995 under the government's Midterm Defense Buildup Program. However, with the end of the cold war and a possible drastic increase in the price of the AWACS, the question of whether the DA should introduce the AWACS has become the focal point of the revision of the Midterm Defense Buildup Program.

In talks with reporters accompanying him in Brussels today, Miyashita said that he plans to send the DA's survey team to the United States by the end of the month. However, he said that in view of past negotiations with the United States and from the commonsense standpoint, it would be impossible to make a decision just two months before the deadline for a draft budget plan for fiscal 1993.

In this way, he disclosed his view for the first time that it would be difficult to introduce the AWACS in fiscal 1993.

Development of Small Nuclear Reactor Studied

*OW0205065492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0636 GMT
02 May 92*

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—The Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corp. has launched a research and development project for a small-sized fast reactor for multipurpose use, officials said Saturday.

Officials said the state-run corporation hopes to put into practical use a new portable type reactor for use in scientific observation projects and in remote areas.

The planned reactor will be usable as a source of energy supply to high-performance submersible craft, undersea observation and space bases, the officials said.

The reactor can produce energy effectively by means of nuclear fission.

The reactor with 200 kilowatt output can operate for a maximum of one year without fuel supplies.

Sodium will be used as a refrigerant agent and a helium-based gas mix will drive the generator, the officials said.

The new reactor will help Japan's deep-sea exploration craft Shinkai 6500 extend its undersea mission from the present maximum of three hours under fuel battery, the officials said.

The new device will be 12 meters wide and six meters high with its core measuring about one meter in diameter, they said.

"The development of a safe fast reactor for deep-sea use has not been under way, and our study has convinced us that it is technically possible to develop it," said Satoshi Tani, leader of the project team at the corporation.

Palm Oil Expected To Be Used in Vehicle Fuel

*OW0305032392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0247 GMT
03 May 92*

[Text] Tokyo, May 3 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and six Japanese companies will soon be able to put palm oil to practical use as fuel for motor vehicles, the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN reported Sunday.

The six companies involved are Mitsui and Co., Lion Corp., Toyota Motor Corp., Hino Motors Ltd., Idemitsu Kosan Co., and NKK Corp., the economic daily said.

The six and MITI's New Energy and Industrial Development Organization (NEDO) launched a study of palm oil in 1990.

Experiments conducted so far have shown favorable results regarding combustion efficiency and exhaust, the paper said.

Specifically, the tests showed that a blend of 90 percent palm oil and 10 percent methanol generated 9,520

kilocalories of heat per kilogram when burned, much the same as the combustion of gas oil, a light oil used in diesel fuel, it said.

Moreover, the volumes of nitrogen oxide and carbon monoxide contained in the exhaust gas were smaller than those of gas oil, the paper said.

However, production costs of palm oil-methanol fuel for use in automobiles are 35 to 40 yen per liter higher than that of gas oil, it said.

Hence, NEDO and the six companies will seek to lower output costs and call on the Japanese Government and major palm oil-producing countries such as Indonesia and Malaysia to work together for the project, the daily said.

North Korea

Spokesman on Submitting Nuclear Report to IAEA

*SK0505111092 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1050 GMT 5 May 92*

["DPRK Government Will Make All Efforts To Faithfully Implement NSA"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will make all efforts in the future, too, to faithfully implement the nuclear safeguards accord [NSA] according to its anti-nuke, peace policy, said a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He clarified this stand once again today, answering questions put by a KCNA [Korean Central News Agency] reporter regarding the report on the initial stock of nuclear substance and the specifications of nuclear equipment which the DPRK presented to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] according to the NSA signed between the DPRK Government and the IAEA.

According to the spokesman, under the NSA the DPRK is obliged to present the report and specifications before the end of May, but it submitted them to the IAEA on May 4, far ahead of the deadline. This fact tells what sincere efforts the government of our Republic are making for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, said the spokesman.

Recalling that the IAEA notified the DPRK that experts will be sent to the DPRK to reach an agreement on auxiliary regulations within May, he said:

We will have a full discussion with the IAEA experts on the matters of nuclear inspection and make every effort for a smooth nuclear inspection.

We consider that it is high time the United States, too, showed sincerity toward the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula in keeping with the working procedures the government of our Republic is taking progressively with regard to the nuclear inspection problem.

Some quarters of the United States, however, are unhesitatingly doing acts getting on our nerves, doubting us still now when our nuclear inspection problem is being solved smoothly and its prospect has become clear.

The U.S. Administration must check the insolent attempts of some quarters to deliberately lay an obstacle in the way of the settlement of our nuclear inspection problem which is now being solved smoothly and make a bold decision to accept our principled and fair demand for a total inspection of the nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea, as it had already committed itself to.

And it must make the South Korean authorities approach the North-South dialogue with a sincere stance toward denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

At the moment when our nuclear inspection problem and the question of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula are being solved, nuclear threat in the North-east Asian region comes, obviously, from Japan.

Now, Japan is putting spurs to her conversion into a military power, massproducing, importing and stockpiling more plutonium than necessary so that she may turn into a nuclear power any moment she wants to.

Such moves of Japan are giving rise to deep apprehensions and unrest among the Asian and other peoples of the world. The world's peace-loving people are now faced with an urgent task to check and frustrate Japan's moves toward nuclear arming, keeping themselves highly vigilant against it.

The Japanese Government authorities must stop putting a spoke in the wheel of denuclearization on the Korean peninsula and immediately give up their ambition for nuclear arming that poses a threat to world peace and thereby alleviate international apprehensions for it.

IAEA Reports Receiving Nuclear Assets List

*AU0405144692 Paris AFP in English 1426 GMT
4 May 92*

[Text] Vienna, May 4 (AFP)—North Korea on Monday handed over a list of its nuclear assets "as thick as a small telephone directory" to the International Atomic Energy Agency, a spokesman at the Vienna-based organisation announced. The spokesman, David Kyd, said it was "too soon to say whether the list is complete", adding that it would take the IAEA one or two days to study the document and reach a decision.

Kyd said the North Korean gesture followed Pyongyang's decision to allow the IAEA to inspect its nuclear installations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)—an agreement it signed in January and ratified on April 9.

Kyd said the first inspections could take place in June.

The North Korean list was handed over to IAEA director-general Hans Blix of Sweden by a member of the

North Korean permanent mission to international organisations based in the Austrian capital. Kyd said Blix would visit Pyongyang in about 10 days' time.

The North Korean authorities had until the end of May to provide a full list of their nuclear facilities, but 10 days ago the Pyongyang government told the IAEA it would deliver the list in the first half of the month.

North Korea used that opportunity to reveal the existence of three nuclear reactors, previously unknown to the IAEA.

U.S. 'Slanders' Over Nuclear Issue Condemned

*SK0505085792 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0028 GMT 5 May 92*

[NODONG SINMUN 5 May commentary: "Bellicose Elements' Outrageous Language"]

[Text] Reactionary elements in the United States are making remarks aimed at raising obstacles to our sincere effort for denuclearizing the Korean peninsula. According to news reports, those working in the U.S. intelligence service are heaping groundless, slanderous words on us, arguing that there is no way to frustrate North Korea's move toward nuclear development even after international nuclear inspections have occurred. Joining forces with these, the U.S. military establishment has openly called for such measures as an economic embargo against us and airstrikes on nuclear facilities.

Couched in such remarks are an unwelcome view of our effort for a satisfactory settlement of the nuclear inspection issue and an insidious attempt to hinder the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula at all costs. This is a grave threat and challenge to our Republic.

The recent Third Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK deliberated and endorsed the safeguards accord pursuant to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. We are sincerely fulfilling our duty to the treaty by readying ourselves for nuclear inspection at an early date after settling all the legal and procedural matters related to the nuclear inspection. This proves that our Republic has neither the intention nor the ability to produce nuclear weapons and that it keeps its promises through practical action.

Our peace-loving measures and stance as such enjoy unanimous support and welcome from the people of the world who value justice and peace. Even the United States, a nuclear power, should respect our independent stance and sincerely fulfill the duty it bears in relation to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, as a matter of course, so that our nuclear inspection issue can be resolved satisfactorily.

This notwithstanding, some in the United States deliberately distorted developments, slandered and denigrated us, and threatened and blackmailed us. This is an unfair act going against common knowledge.

This cannot be construed as other than a rude charge against us, insulting our Republic's sovereignty and dignity, and as a bellicose and outrageous act laying bare an anti-peace nature.

It is because they have some other goal in mind that the reactionary elements in the United States keep noisily prattling about our nuclear issue, about which there is nothing to doubt at all. They have not relinquished their ulterior motive to complicate the matter by throwing artificial obstacles before the process of improving North-South relations which is under way on the Korean peninsula and to obliterate our socialism with armed force. This is evidenced by their reckless remarks on airstrikes against our nuclear facilities and daily U.S. war exercises conducted over the skies of South Korea by mobilizing hundreds of aircraft every day.

Playing with fire on the Korean peninsula, one of the world's most acute confrontation points, is a great threat to world peace. This is a very irresponsible act.

Some figures in the United States are trying to justify their criminal attempts as such by kicking up a commotion over the North's nonexistent nuclear development.

U.S. people and politicians with insight do not trust the hollowed assertions of the bellicose elements, and the world's peace-loving people are denouncing them.

Those who mock public opinion and threaten peace with deliberate lies and brazen-faced maneuvers will encounter still greater denunciation and rejection from the people.

Radio Reports New York Protest Rally

*SK0405045092 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 3 May 92*

[Text] According to reports, New York citizens on 1 May staged a protest rally to denounce violence by white policemen against a black man in Los Angeles and racism in the United States.

Approximately 1,000 citizens, both black and white, participated in the rally. Rally speakers appealed to people to rise up in a nationwide protest against police brutality and racism. They pointed out the struggle against racism should be carried out in an organizational manner.

The slogan, "Police brutality and all other violence must be stopped!" "The struggle against racism and poverty is just!" and "No justice, no peace!" resounded from the rally site.

About 300 policemen encircled the site.

Yon Hyong-muk Heads Delegation to 7th N-S Talks

*SK0505080792 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0500 GMT 5 May 92*

[Text] Our side's delegation to the seventh round of North-South high-level talks arrived in Seoul at 1140 on 5 May.

The delegation is headed by Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council and includes suite members and reporters covering the talks.

The South side's parties to the talks, headed by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, received our side's delegation at the Shilla Hotel where the delegation will stay.

The streets stretching from Munsan and from the Joint Security Area of the Military Demarcation Line at Panmunjom to Seoul were crowded with countless numbers of Southern compatriots who turned out to greet and welcome our delegation as reunification envoys and as brothers and blood relatives who give all fellow countrymen hope and joy.

A large number of uniformed and plainclothes policemen and agents took up positions in every street and alley and heatedly tried to block the passage of residents. However, the Southern compatriots, along with (?residents) on the streets, raised their hands and waved at our delegation's motorcade, while what appeared to be university students of both sexes held up high their crossed hands and applauded to express their warm desire for reunification.

Even at house and bus windows, countless numbers of Southern compatriots, ranging from the elderly to women and children, waved and warmly welcomed our delegation which was coming once again to Seoul for a successful seventh North-South high-level talks. Earlier the two sides agreed the Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Cooperation and Exchange between the North and South at the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks following the first and third rounds of talks. They also arranged a valuable venue for talks for solving the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula. Before, there had been no response for solving this issue for decades.

The people's faces expressed a firm will to vigorously rise up in the great march of the whole nation toward reunification before the end of the nineties reflecting together the fiery desire for reunification that they can no longer go on living with the burden of division, because the fatherland is one and the nation is one.

When our side's delegation arrived at the hotel, hotel employees pleasantly received them with applause.

Spokesman Gives Arrival Statement

*SK0505073292 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0503 GMT 5 May 92*

[News conference with "arrival statement" by An Pyong-su, DPRK delegation spokesman to the seventh North-South premier's talks at the Shilla Hotel in Seoul with foreign and North, South Korean reporters on 5 May—recorded]

[Text] Seoul citizens, Southern compatriots, and domestic and foreign reporters: The North side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks expresses its wholehearted gratitude to Seoul's citizens and compatriots and brethren in the South who pleasantly received our delegation and company in the spirit of blood relatives, and conveys to them the warm greetings from Pyongyang citizens and brethren in the North.

At a time when fellow countrymen's ardent desire for reunification has risen even higher in the wake of historic North-South documents of agreement which have been implemented, our delegation came to Seoul for its fourth visit.

With the documents of national common agreement implemented at the last round of talks at the sixth North-South high-level talks held in Pyongyang, our talks are about to enter a new stage.

We have now reached a new hill of history from which to unfold a new chapter of reconciliation and cooperation after removing the mistrust and confrontation that has continued for nearly half a century, to prevent war and division, and open a bright vista for peace and peaceful reunification.

The upcoming seventh round of North-South high-level talks are the first toward opening the future to reconciliation, peace, and reunification. Therefore, the upcoming talks are an important occasion for the two sides to show their determination to reunify the country and the whole world as well as prove the historic significance and undoubted weight of the agreement's documents to people at home and abroad.

The upcoming talks' importance as well as a sense of responsibility to fellow countrymen for an excellent outcome of the talks makes us feel more acutely the need for special efforts and mutual cooperation by both sides' delegates.

Our North side delegation, which made all efforts for sincere implementation of the North-South agreements in the past, will, above all, actively make these talks a driving force to powerfully implement the agreement's documents.

Today as we greet a new phase of independence, peace, and cooperation, both sides' delegations should open a broad road for comprehensive implementation of the agreement's documents by combining mutual intent and wisdom.

No matter how excellent the agreement's documents are, they would have no significance for the nation's peace and reunification if they are not put into practice.

Both sides' delegations should come to the talks with a broad-minded attitude and position to accept the problems that acted as stumbling blocks during past subcommittee meetings. Thus, they should powerfully push ahead with implementing the agreement's documents.

We will make every effort to fulfill the annexed agreements and executive organizations during the upcoming talks and thus provide a firm framework to comprehensively implement the agreement's documents.

We will also strive to show that the upcoming seventh talks are talks that have entered the practical stage of implementation.

Today all fellow countrymen are anxiously waiting for reconciliation and peace that can be felt with their hearts instead of reconciliation and peace heard only with their ears.

It is now time for us to satisfy the ardent aspirations of fellow countrymen. Both sides' delegations should ensure that the upcoming, worthy talks produce a practical outcome all fellow countrymen can really sense and that the agreement's documents prove their worth.

Our delegation is resolved to make sincere efforts during the upcoming seventh talks to produce an excellent new outcome that meets fellow countrymen's demands.

I hope that the South side's compatriots and brothers, who pay great attention to our talks, will extend unsparing encouragement to our efforts for sincere implementation of the agreement's documents. Thank you.

Paper Views Next Round of Premiers Talks

*SK0505125692 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1041 GMT 5 May 92*

["North-South High-level Talks and Nation's Expectation"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—If the South Korean authorities truly want to see a smooth implementation of the documents of the inter-Korean agreement, they should take the stand of national independence and show it in deed at the forthcoming 7th North-South high-level talks.

This is the way of living up to the expectation of the fellow countrymen who want the sincere implementation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration.

MINJU CHOSON today says this in a commentary on the 7th inter-Korean high-level talks, to be held in Seoul from May 6, the first full-dress talks since the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization have been effectuated.

The analyst notes:

Documents endorsing the effectuation of the "Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and the South" and "Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula" were exchanged, the formal effectuation of the two documents were declared to the world and "Agreement on Formation and Operation of Subcommittees of North-South High-level Talks" was signed and exchanged at the 6th North-South high-level talks held in Pyongyang in February last.

Our party and the government of the Republic have made all possible efforts to implement the North-South agreement and the joint declaration after the 6th inter-Korean high-level talks.

But owing to the unreasonable argument and unjust insistence of the South side, the meetings of subcommittees and meetings of the Nuclear Control Joint Committee made no progress.

The two sides have still differences over the question of working out the annexed agreement, the question of forming and operating joint committees and the question of implementing the joint declaration on denuclearization.

How to find solutions to these questions is the basic task to be tackled by the 7th inter-Korean high-level talks.

In order to sincerely implement the inter-Korean agreement and the joint declaration, it is imperative to maintain an independent stand. The independent stand is the fundamental stand which should be firmly adhered to in implementing the documents of the inter-Korean agreement and realizing national reunification.

If any party depends on foreign forces and allows outside intervention under the situation where the country remains divided into the North and the South, it will be quite difficult to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Whatever good agreement has been reached between the North and the South, it cannot be implemented if any party takes the road of depending on foreign forces, without the spirit of independence.

Syrian Government Delegation Arrives

SK0205045992 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0446 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—A government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic led by 'Abd-al-Rahman Madani, minister of irrigation, flew to Pyongyang Friday.

It was met at the airport by Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs, and Yasir Farah, Syrian ambassador to Korea.

Kim Il-song Meets Syrians

SK0405110792 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1033 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting Syrian Government delegation led by 'Abd-al-Rahman Madani, minister of irrigation.

Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs, and Yasir Farah, Syrian ambassador to Korea, were present on the occasion.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He was presented with a gift by the head of the delegation.

Article Reviews Principles of Reunification

OW0305090192 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0828 GMT 3 May 92

["Historical Work Which Expounds Fundamental Principle of Solving Reunification Question"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an article on the lapse of 20 years since the great leader President Kim Il-song clarified the three principles of independence, great national unity and peaceful reunification in "On the Three Principles of National Reunification," conversations with the South Korean delegates to the high-level political talks between North and South Korea (May 3, 1972).

The signed article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"The three principles of realizing independent reunification without outside interference, achieving great national unity by transcending the differences in ideas, ideals and systems, and reunifying the divided land by peaceful means without recourse to armed forces, are the starting point of and the basis for the solution of our reunification question".

The article further says:

The three principles of national reunification is the basic guarantee for the North and the South with different ideas and systems to jointly solve the reunification question and a common action program on which the North and the South should firmly rely in their talks.

The three principles of national reunification which consummates the will and desire of the entire fellow countrymen has become the reunification program common to the nation because the North and the South agreed upon it and declared it at home and abroad through the July 4 joint statement.

As the principles of independence, great national unity and peaceful reunification reflects the national desire of the Korean people who aspire to peace in Korea and its

peaceful reunification and the current of the times towards independence and peace, it is fully supported and hailed by the entire Korean people and the world's peaceloving people as the imperishable supreme principles that must be tackled till reunification has been achieved. This is a clear proof of the validity and great vitality of the three principles of national reunification.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward the cardinal principle of achieving national reunification—reunification through a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments—by embodying the three principles of national reunification, and the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo, a proposal which carries it into concrete form, and thus indicated the most reasonable and realistic way of achieving national reunification.

The "Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and the South" and the "Joint Declaration on the Denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula" were adopted at the recent inter-Korean high-level talks and have taken effect. This is a great victory won in the course of nationwide struggle for implementing the three principles of national reunification and a historical event which provided a new milestone in the way of achieving national reunification.

The policies put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the talks are the policies which he set out by crystallizing the already clarified three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity in conformity with the present-day reality; they constitute a highly important guideline that must be tackled firmly in opening the road to peace in the country and its reunification through the inter-Korean agreement and the joint denuclearisation declaration in compliance with the desire of the entire people in the North and South of Korea and with the expectations of the world people.

Editorial Views Significance of May Day

*SK0405044892 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0048 GMT 1 May 92*

[NODONG SINMUN 1 May editorial: "Let Us Defend and Advance the Socialist Cause by Strengthening International Unity"]

[Text] In this significant period just after the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's 80th birthday and the 60th anniversary of the Korean People's Army [KPA] founding were brilliantly celebrated as magnificent festivals, all workers including our working class are significantly welcoming the international holiday, May Day, which strengthens the militant unity between the world's working class and people.

On the occasion of this day, our working class and people are sending the most enthusiastic greetings of congratulations and militant solidarity to the working class and people of all countries in the world. May Day, which is

significantly celebrated annually by the world's working and progressive people, is an international holiday of important significance in advancing the anti-imperialist cause for independence.

At a time when the imperialists and the reactionaries are viciously maneuvering to oppose the socialist and independent cause, it is all the more important and noteworthy to significantly celebrate the May Day holiday, which strengthens the working class' international unity.

The socialist cause is advocated and advanced by the working class and people strengthening their international unity and solidarity, and this is a strong weapon in achieving victory in the anti-imperialist cause for independence.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out: The anti-imperialist independence forces have great strength which cannot be compared with the imperialist forces' strength. The problem is how should the anti-imperialist independence forces unite to carry out the struggle. An unchangeable truth is that unity is a decisive element in the revolution's victory.

For the working class and people, unity means strength, and when they unite they manifest formidable strength. Moreover, under the condition of the imperialists colluding with each other to oppose with their united strength socialism and the progressive people, it is a very urgent problem for all the anti-imperialist independence forces of the world to firmly unite and carry out the struggle.

A long time has passed since 1 May began to be celebrated as an international holiday to display the united strength of the entire world's working class. This whole history was a proud course in which the revolutionary people including the working class smashed the capitalist's tyranny and the chains of slavery, carried out a blood-stained struggle to build a new society, and achieved endless progress.

Hundreds of millions of people in Asia, Africa, and Latin America who were trampled and abandoned for centuries in the past, have now thrown off the yoke of the doomed colonies and have achieved brilliant victories on the road to create a new life.

In a historically short time, the socialist countries achieved great social and economic development such as cannot be achieved even after hundreds of years under capitalism. The progressive people's road of struggle to achieve national and class liberation and socialism was by no means smooth. On this road were many twists and turns and temporary failures and frustrations. However, when considering this generally, the working class and progressive people in their cause for anti-imperialist independence and socialism have achieved endless progress in accordance with the historical trend of development.

For all the people to oppose all kinds of domination and subordination and to move toward the road of independence and socialism are the trends of the times. Our people,

who had been suppressed and treated contemptuously in the past, emerged as the masters of history, thus changing our era into one in which the people dictate their own fate and pioneer it independently and creatively.

Regarding the collapse of socialism in some countries, today the imperialists and reactionaries are babbling as if the historical trend of history has changed, but history is resolutely and vigorously advancing along the road of independence according to its track.

Today's era is one of independence, and the advance in the socialist cause, which is to realize the popular masses' independence, cannot be prevented by any power.

Under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, our people are strengthening militant unity with the international revolutionary forces and have launched a vigorous struggle to achieve victory in sovereignty, independence, and the socialist cause by highly upholding the banner of independence.

During the gloomy days when national suffering was at its climax, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song created the immortal *chuche* idea, thus pioneering a new road in the revolution, enabling our people to achieve national liberation, class liberation, and human liberation through their own strength.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song brilliantly elucidated the path of victory with the torch of the *chuche* idea, which is the guiding ideology of our era, and wisely led our revolution. By doing so, it was possible for our people to achieve the fatherland's liberation and to build the most solid and superior socialism that does not waver in any kind of storm.

Today, under the wise leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is brilliantly succeeding and completing the *chuche* revolutionary cause, socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses has overcome all kinds of trials and storms, which is in accordance with the might of the single-hearted unity of all the people in the entire nation, and is pressing hard on the heels of the enemy. Also, in its road ahead, only a magnificent future lies ahead.

The socialist cause, which is advancing under the banner of the *chuche* idea, is a national cause and at the same time an international cause. Our party always treasures international unity and cooperation based on independence and has endlessly strengthened international solidarity.

The whole course of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's 80th birthday and the 60th anniversary of the KPA founding being magnificently celebrated amid enthusiastic congratulations and deep interest from the world's progressive people clearly shows the firmness of the invincible vitality of our country's socialism and international support and the solidarity of the world's revolutionary people with our party and people.

Even under the difficult environment of standing face to face with the combined forces of the imperialists, our

people's struggle to successfully build socialism is greatly encouraging the sacred struggle of the world's progressive people for independence.

The practical experience of our revolution clearly proves that the socialist cause will vigorously advance along the victorious road when the revolutionary *chuche* is endlessly strengthened under the leadership of the great party and leader and under a correct guiding ideology; adheres to the socialist principle in any kind of environment; and strengthens international unity and cooperation based on independence.

Today the communist revolutionaries and progressive people are facing weighty tasks to resolutely defend the socialist cause and to vigorously advance the independent cause by strengthening international unity and solidarity. To firmly defend the socialist cause and victoriously advance it is a very important issue for man's fate.

The socialist cause is a just cause to realize the popular masses' independence. In its essence, socialism is a true society for the people in which the popular masses are the masters of all things and all things serve the popular masses.

In a capitalist society, where money determines everything, exploitation of man by man is dominant and a minimum number of the exploitative class acts as if it is the master. It is an unfair society of the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Also, it is an utterly rotten society filled with all kinds of social ills, such as lack of political rights, unemployment, destitution, drugs, and crimes. As can be seen in some countries where socialism collapsed and capitalism was restored, only on the socialist road can the popular masses enjoy true freedom and happiness without having to know about all kinds of social ills. Also, if one parts from socialism all kinds of unhappiness and calamity will result. Therefore, true communist revolutionaries of the world and progressive people are vigorously advancing in the struggle to advocate socialism and develop a new socialist movement based on a new foundation.

The adoption of the Pyongyang Declaration, which reflects the unshakable resolution to defend and advance the socialist cause, by delegates of many communist and workers parties and other political parties supporting socialism who gathered in Pyongyang to congratulate the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song on his 80th birthday, was a clear manifestation of their revolutionary will to reconstruct the socialist movement and lead it to a new upsurge in keeping with the requirement of the era of independence.

The path of socialism mentioned in the Pyongyang declaration is a true road along which socialism advances, winning victories in accordance with the law of the development of man's history.

What is most important in defending and advancing the cause of socialism is to firmly maintain independence and to strengthen international unity and solidarity based on it.

Independence is the life of the country and people, and the socialist movement is an independent movement.

Because the country and national state must work together to build socialism, each country should build socialism that responds to the country's party and people.

Our revolution's history clearly proves that the defense of independence is the life of socialism. That socialism in our country is advancing unflinchingly, even in the whirlpool of the fluctuating situation, vigorously proves the justness of our party's church-oriented leadership, which has firmly maintained independence after overcoming toadyism and doctrinism.

Our people, cherishing endless pride and self-respect for having built superior socialism by maintaining a church-oriented stand, will continue to completely implement our party's church-oriented lines and policies, resolutely defend socialism, and shout hurrah for victory in socialism even more loudly.

The socialist cause is not only a national cause but also a common cause of mankind. International solidarity is indispensable for the victory of socialism.

As noted in the Pyongyang Declaration, under international conditions in which imperialists and reactionaries are attacking socialism and people, parties building socialism and parties aspiring for socialism should defend and advance socialism internationally; oppose imperialist domination, subordination to capital, and neocolonialism; and strengthen their support and solidarity in the struggle for social justice, democracy, right to life, and peace. Doing so is an international duty for the sake of socialism.

Our party has consistently maintained unity and cooperation based on independence and defense of independence while strengthening international solidarity as the basic principle for developing international relations.

Our party and people will continue to struggle vigorously to build a new, independent world in firm unity with all progressive political parties and organizations throughout the world that fight capitalism and imperialism.

Our people have already advanced further on the road to socialism, to communism; however, we are still on the revolutionary road, which is not auspicious.

We should continue to advance and vigorously struggle under the revolutionary banner to achieve socialism's victory, to hasten the country's independent reunification, and to fulfill the socialist, communist cause to the end.

All party members and workers should demonstrate the might of the our revolution's main force by strengthening single-hearted unity between the leader, party, and the masses.

The country's workers should maintain the political and ideological atmosphere of the meaningful, splendid April Festival and increase socialist construction.

Our people will continue to vigorously struggle with compatriots at home and abroad to not only smash the splittists' maneuvers to perpetuate national division but also achieve national reunification before the end of the nineties.

On May Day, the international holiday to demonstrate the militant unity of the world's working class, our people are determined to strengthen the friendship and unity with all countries workers' aspiring for independence.

Our people, believing in the justness of the socialist cause and its certain victory, will tenaciously struggle to fulfill the church socialist cause under the great leadership of the party and leader.

Senior Officials Celebrate May Day With Workers

SK0205053092 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0500 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—Senior officials of the party and government Friday went out to factories and enterprises and congratulated the workers and encouraged them on their revolutionary holiday.

O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and minister of People's Armed Forces; Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol, Politburo members of the WPK Central Committee and vice-presidents; Choe Kwang, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, and Chon Pyong-ho, secretary of the party Central Committee, who are Politburo members of the WPK Central Committee; and other senior officials went to coal and ore mines to spend the holiday with workers.

The senior party and government officials had a good time, playing sports and amusement games such as the tug of war, partner-finding, running with balls in arms with working people.

Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, congratulated the workers on their international holiday at the Kim Chong-tae electric locomotive complex; Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, at the Hwanghae iron and steel complex; Choe Yong-nim, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council, at the Cholima steel complex; Kim Chol-man, alternate Politburo member of the WPK Central Committee, at the Pukchang thermal power complex; and Hong Song-nam,

alternate Politburo member of the party Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council, at the Kim Chaek iron and steel complex.

Han Song-yong, Politburo member and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, called on the workers of the Hungnam fertilizer complex; Kim Pok-sin, alternate Politburo member of the party Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council, the Kusong textile mill; Kim Chong-nin, So Kwan-hi and Pak Nam-ki, secretaries of the party Central Committee, the Namhung youth chemical complex, the Kumsong tractor complex and the Sunchon vinalon complex; Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Taean heavy machine complex; Kim Chang-chu and Kim Yun-hyok, vice-premiers of the Administration Council, the Ponghwa chemical factory and the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex and Chon Mun-sop, chairman of the State Inspection Commission, the Pyongyang textile machine factory.

The senior officials of the party and government conversed with labor innovators and labor heroes and heroines and visited the families of workers and stimulated the revolutionary enthusiasm of the workers who were greeting the holiday of the workers of the world.

Joyous and pleasant sports and amusement games, art performances and dancing parties took place at industrial establishments.

Artistes of the Mansudae art troupe, the Pibada opera troupe and the Pyongyang circus gave performances in parks and pleasure grounds on May Day.

Kim Il-song Birthday Hailed as Political Festival

*SK0205103192 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1000 GMT 2 May 92*

[“NODONG SINMUN Calls for Displaying Honor of Having Great Leader Through Generations”]

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an editorial dealing with the fact that the 80th birthday of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the 60th founding anniversary of the heroic Korean People's Army were celebrated as grand political festivals which will shine long in the history of our country.

It says:

On the occasion of the 80th birthday of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, heads of state and more than 420 delegations from 130 countries came to Korea by making long journeys across continents and oceans and extended their warm congratulations to him with unbounded respect and reverence. This made the grand political festivity an international jubilee overflowing with friendship and solidarity.

Never before in the time-honored history of Korea our people had so great pride and honor as today when they

are making revolution under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has said:

“The hearts of our people are burning with firm determination to remain loyal to the respected leader forever, cherishing deeply in their minds the national pride and honor in having the great leader.”

Our people deeply felt once again through the grand political festival how proud they are in having the great leader and the illustrious leader.

The powerful manifestation of the loyalty of our people who have made revolution, holding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem, is a token of high respect for and trust in him and of their resolution to follow him to the end of this world.

The significant celebrations of wide range showed how powerful the singlehearted unity of our party and people closely rallied around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is. It also fully demonstrated to the world that the source of the inexhaustible strength of our-style socialism centred on the popular masses lies in this singlehearted unity.

When we fully enlist the revolutionary zeal and creative activity of the masses which have been elevated through the festival, we will have nothing impossible and effect another revolutionary turn in socialist construction.

Through the festival we have become deeply aware of the greatness of the party and the leader and felt the great national pride in carrying on the revolution under the guidance of the great leader and the great party.

To steadfastly defend and glorify the imperishable feats performed by the party and the leader is an important task to successfully accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche, guided by the great leader.

Our people with this faith they got through their daily life, will always live and fight staunchly with invariable loyalty to the party and the leader, entirely trusting and following them, the editorial stresses.

South Korea

Reports on Los Angeles Riots, Response Continue

No Tae-u Thanks Bush for Concern

*SK0205093892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0923 GMT
2 May 92*

[Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u thanked U.S. President George Bush Saturday for his special interest in the safety of Korean residents in the United States and words of condolences to the sufferers of the Los Angeles riot.

No, in a telegram sent to Bush, asked for continued U.S. support for development of the Korean-American community into a healthy constituent of the American society.

The U.S. President expressed his concerns about the safety of Koreans in the United States in his nationally televised speech, responding to reports that Koreatown in Los Angeles is one of the most heavily victimized areas.

No said he and his fellow Koreans express deep regrets about the riot and offer sincere condolences and that he hopes for a quick end to the violence and speedy restoration from damage.

The president also sent a consolatory message to the Korean victims and their families in Los Angeles and encouraged them to remain determined to overcome their adversities.

South Korea has asked the United States to prevent further damage on the Korean residents and the South Korean missions were advised to provide every available support and cooperation, No said in the message.

Minister Reports to Cabinet

SK0105131192 Seoul YONHAP in English 1118 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 1 (YONHAP)—More than 100 Korean-owned shops were looted and set ablaze during the Los Angeles riot and more than 30 Koreans were injured, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok reported to the cabinet Friday.

Most of the shopowners do not have the right insurance to cover the property damage, and the victims are hoping for compensation from the U.S. federal and state governments, he told an emergency cabinet session.

Prime Minister Chong Won-sik convened the special session to coordinate safety measures for the Korean residents in the United States.

Yi reported that the South Korean Consulate in Los Angeles held an emergency meeting with local Korean leaders and asked for police mobilization in areas with concentration of Korean residents.

The consulate asked NBC to refrain from repeatedly airing clips of rioting in Koreatown to avoid any misperception that the riot is between Koreans and blacks, Yi said.

The meeting was attended also by Justice Minister Kim Ki-chun, Information Minister Choe Chang-yun and Kim Chong-hwi, senior presidential secretary for diplomacy and security.

The prime minister instructed the Justice Ministry to be prepared to handle various legal implications from the riot.

He also instructed the Information Ministry to update reports on the incidents and inform the public quickly and precisely.

Kim Tae-chung To Travel to U.S.

SK0305111192 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1000 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Kim Tae-chung, co-chairman of the Democratic Party [DP], plans to visit the United States tomorrow to see the situation facing the Korean compatriots who have greatly suffered from the riots provoked by the blacks in Los Angeles, and to discuss measures to restore normal conditions and compensate for the damages.

During their four-day, three-night stay in Los Angeles and San Francisco, Executive Chairman Kim Tae-chung and other party executive members, including Co-chairman Yi Pu-yong, are expected to console the Korean compatriots on their misfortune, and to discuss with black leaders and U.S. authorities fundamental ways to protect them in the future, ways to keep similar incidents from recurring, and ways to make appropriate compensation, according to Pak U-sok, DP deputy spokesman.

Trip 'Aimed at Consoling' Victims

SK0505005692 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 5 May 92 p 2

[From the "Press Pocket" column entitled: "Politicking O'seas"]

[Text] Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung's trip to the United States, publicly aimed at consoling Korean residents in Los Angeles, seems designed more to show off his broad interests in humanitarian issues beyond the political arena.

Kim and his Democratic Party [DP] has paid keen attention to economic problems facing the middle-and below-middle-class people since its surge in the March 24 parliamentary elections in an adroit strategy to expand support for the party prior to the December presidential election.

Censured for his obsessive presidential ambitions, Kim, who is most likely to make a third run for the presidency, embarked on the brief four-day journey yesterday, two days after he announced the DP's plan to send a fact-finding mission.

His 13-member mission, however, lacks expertise as well as good orientation and information. No experts were included in the delegation and detailed itineraries were not fixed either.

"We will act in accordance with the situation. We could not spell out plans in detail as we have no exact idea about the situation we will face in the United States," one member said.

Kim Tae-chung is being accompanied by his wife, several Assemblymen-elect and his son and daughter-in-law on this visit which seems little more than an overseas excursion in the period of a political lull, an observer criticized.

His rival faction boss, Yi Ki-taek, visited the United States last month with his wife and a group of his followers, many of them who were defeated in the March general ballots, in what was seen as a consolation trip for the Yi faction which was a big loser in the March elections.

Prompted by the DP's announcement of the trip, the second opposition Unification National Party sent vice chairman Kim Tong-kil, formerly an American history professor, to Los Angeles to survey the damage inflicted on Korean-Americans by rioters.

U.S. Federal Efforts Analyzed

SK0405041392 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
3 May 92 p 3

[Editorial: "Doubtful Points in Los Angeles Situation"]

[Text] A basic cause of rioting by blacks in Los Angeles is white Americans' sense of superiority, and more notably, the verdict by those involved in the Rodney King court case. Would the court give a verdict of "not guilty" to black policemen beating a white man?

Even if the court's decision is based on grounds leading to a verdict of "not guilty," no one can deny that the beating by white policemen, as seen in the video tape, is excessive. Should the offenders be dealt with in such a manner?

A point one should also pay attention to is that even today, 27 years after the "Watts riots," there is no evidence of improvement in U.S. society's poverty structure and black people's social and economic position. Needless to say, a partial reason for this is a lack of will among black people for self-reliance. However, successive white U.S. ruling circles, including the Bush administration, which neglected these problems, carry most of the responsibility for this development.

In reflecting on the riot, there are a few points that are difficult to grasp. First, how could such an unprecedented state of lawlessness which included murder, arson, plunder, and destruction take place for 48 hours and be almost totally neglected by the U.S. Federal Government? When the federal government mobilized its troops in Los Angeles even belatedly, the riot was already subsiding. The federal government might have thought that if the troops were mobilized among rioters, a situation of bloodshed may have erupted. Then, viewing the situation, this could mean that the government allowed one to run wild for 48 hours, as freely as can be, and waited until one's act came to an end by its own accord.

Second, what is odd is that the National Guard forces were merely deployed in Beverly Hills where rich white Americans live, not in Koreatown where the plundering actually took place. Needless to say, Beverly Hills must be protected, too. However, seeing a Korean-American youth on television, shouting "I cannot see any National Guard forces here!" we cannot but have a strange feeling about this.

We also have a request for Korean residents in the United States. We urge them to carry out various types of good, active movements beneficial to strengthening solidarity among races, including service work for local societies and donations, so that they will not be the target of hatred from blacks and U.S. society. They should make money, but at the same time, realize that U.S. society consists of many races. The Korean residents should broadly popularize such consciousness.

Protection Assigned U.S. Soldiers

SK0205054892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0540 GMT
2 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP)—The National Police Agency Saturday instructed provincial police to take steps to prevent possible attacks on black American soldiers in connection with the riots in Los Angeles.

Police stepped up patrols around U.S. military installations and areas frequented by American soldiers.

In Seoul, Yongsan police sent squads to guard the foreigners apartments in Hannam-dong and the gates of the Eighth U.S. Army compound.

Student Anti-U.S. Sentiment Grows

SK0505020692 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
5 May 92 p 23

[From the "Colored Pencil" column]

[Text] Before and after 4 May, large wall posters and signs of the National Alliance of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop], denouncing the United States over the black riots in Los Angeles, were displayed on campuses across the country. Students demonstrated in Seoul and Kwangju. Anti-U.S. sentiment, which has been calm, is rapidly spreading.

On 4 May, large signs were displayed on campus notice boards at Yonsei, Hongik, and Sogang Universities. Written in the name of the General Student Association, one sign read "Unable to control one's own domestic affairs, why does one interfere in others' matters?" Large wall posters demanded compensation for damages and an official apology.

Some 100 students from Hanyang University and Kyonghui University demonstrated in front of the U.S. Embassy in Sejongno, Chongno, denouncing the United States, and delivering a letter of protest. Later, 11 Seoul University students came to the Embassy and staged a demonstration. In Kwangju, about 800 students from South Cholla District Alliance of General Students Associations, including Chonnam University, staged peaceful demonstrations denouncing the United States, shouting, "The United States should pay attention to its own human rights problems."

Inter-Korean Talks To Stress Nuclear Inspection*SK0405023592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0106 GMT
4 May 92*

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (OANA-YONHAP)—Conducting mutual nuclear inspections, opening liaison offices and establishing joint committees are to be top issues at the 7th inter-Korean prime ministers' talks, opening here Tuesday.

A 90-member North Korean delegation, led by Premier Yon Hyong-muk, will cross the border at the truce village of Panmunjom for two sessions, one open and the other closed, on Wednesday and Thursday.

The South Korean side will be led by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik.

The two sides have a May 18 deadline for forming three joint committees—political, military and economic exchanges and cooperation—and for establishing liaison offices at Panmunjom in accordance with the Reconciliation, Nonaggression and Exchanges and Cooperation Agreement signed last December.

They did not set a specific date, but Seoul and Pyongyang have agreed to set nuclear inspection guidelines by "around" May 18 as verification measures to keep the Korean peninsula nuclear-free.

South and North Korea have been negotiating these issues for several months, but produced no significant progress. Failure to agree on an inspection regime is holding back progress in other areas as well, sources here say.

"The two sides did not reach any agreement during past contacts. But they pledged in the agreement to establish liaison offices and joint committees by May 18, and neither wants to be suspected of insincerity in implementing the agreement," one official said.

"The focus of this round of talks is on the liaison offices and committees, and there is a chance of producing an agreement," he said.

Chong will demand North Korea engage in sincere negotiations for early nuclear cross-inspection and for early reunions of elderly relatives.

Yon and his delegation will return to Pyongyang May 8 through the border village.

90-Member North Delegation Arrives in Seoul*SK0505021592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT
5 May 92*

[Text] Seoul, May 5 (YONHAP)—A North Korean delegation arrived here Tuesday for the 7th inter-Korean prime ministers' talks slated for May 5-8.

The 90-member North Korean team, led by Premier Yon Hyong-muk, crossed the border at the truce village of Panmunjom around 10:00 A.M. for two sessions, one open and the other closed, on Wednesday and Thursday.

The South Korean side will be led by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik.

Top issues at the premiers' talks are conducting mutual nuclear inspections, opening liaison offices and establishing joint committees.

The two sides have a May 18 deadline for forming three joint committees—political, military and economic exchanges and cooperation—and for establishing liaison offices at Panmunjom in accordance with the reconciliation, nonaggression and exchanges and cooperation agreement signed last December.

They did not set a specific date, but Seoul and Pyongyang have agreed to set nuclear inspection guidelines by "around" May 18 as verification measures to keep the Korean peninsula nuclear-free.

Chong will demand North Korea engage in sincere negotiations for early nuclear cross-inspection and for early reunions of elderly relatives.

The North Koreans will attend a dinner hosted by Chong at the Lotte Hotel that day.

During their stay here, they will participate in a dinner hosted by the mayor of Seoul at the Hyatt Hotel, visit a Kia Motors Co. factory in Kwangmyong, near Seoul, tour Yongin Farmland, an amusement park southeast of Seoul, and watch a Korean dance performance at the National Theater.

They are scheduled to return to Pyongyang Friday through the border village.

Premier Addresses Dinner for North Delegation*SK0505100792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0951 GMT
5 May 92*

[Text] Seoul, May 5 (YONHAP)—South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik urged Tuesday North Korea to observe and implement the basic agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation and exchanges.

In his dinner address at Lotte Hotel, downtown Seoul, welcoming the North Korean delegation to the 7th inter-Korean premiers' talks, Chong said that these precious historic documents will be rendered meaningless unless they are earnestly observed and implemented, even though they embody the yearning and aspirations of the entire Korean people.

"By bringing the South-North basic agreement and the joint declaration of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula into effect at the sixth round of South-North high-level talks last February, the South and North have finally opened an era of reconciliation and cooperation, replacing confrontation and antagonism," he said.

"Our 70 million compatriots have been watching the work of the three committees and the Joint Nuclear

Control Commission—the first step toward implementing the basic agreement—with hope and expectation,” he said. “The pressing task of the committees is, of course, to establish the South-North liaison offices and the joint commissions necessary to implement the basic agreement by the May 19 deadline as specified under the basic agreement.”

The prime minister expressed his hope to work out and sign the relevant accords at this seventh round of talks so that these organizations can be created by the deadline.

“In this way, we can confirm once again the unswerving determination of both sides to observe and implement the basic agreement,” he added.

As a symbolic gesture of South-North reconciliation, Chong also urged the North Korean side to positively respond to the issue of reunions of dispersed families.

“If we can only take the pain and agony of the dispersed families onto ourselves and if we are aware of the fact that without the easing of their torment, there can be no genuine reconciliation between the South and the North, the issues of the dispersed families could be easily resolved,” he said.

The 90-member North Korean team, led by Premier Yon Hyong-muk, crossed that day the border at the truce village of Panmunjom for two sessions, one open and the other closed, on Wednesday and Thursday.

The North Koreans are scheduled to return to Pyongyang Friday through the border village.

North's Entry Into ADB Conditionally Supported

SK0405095792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0941 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Hong Kong, May 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea may withhold its support for North Korean admission to such international financial organizations as the Asia Development Bank (ADB) unless it fully accepts international inspections of its nuclear facilities and cooperates for the improvement of inter-Korean relations, Finance Minister Yi Yong-man said here Monday.

South Korea supports North Korean membership of world financial bodies in principle but it might change its mind if it saw no sign of fidelity on the part of North Korea in nuclear and inter-Korean issues, he told a group of journalists.

Yi was in Hong Kong for an annual ADB meeting.

Asked on Seoul's reaction to a proposal to raise ADB's authorized capital from 24.2 billion U.S. dollars to over 30 billion dollars, Yi said, “the South Korean Government would consider it in a positive direction, but I understand that, in making a decision, a careful consideration should be given to the nation's economic capabilities.”

He said South Korea was going to strengthen inter-governmental cooperations with Vietnam and Laos if it

established diplomatic [relations] with them. He took the signing of an investment guarantee pact as one type of governmental-level cooperation.

Korea hasn't yet normalized relations with the two countries.

“We may offer our economic development and cooperation fund loans to the countries to support their infrastructure schemes,” he added.

Kotra Chairman Discusses Ties With Jiang Zemin

SK0405041192 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0200 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Korea Traders Association [KOTRA] Chairman Pak Yong-hak, who is now in China, met General Secretary Jiang Zemin and other high-ranking officials, including Vice Premier Tian Jiyun. He discussed with them matters of common concern to both countries, including economic cooperation.

KOTRA Chairman Pak Yong-hak, who visited China as head of the congratulatory group marking the 40th anniversary of China's Chamber of International Commerce, met General Secretary Jiang Zemin, Vice Premier Tian Jiyun, and Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Minister Li Lanqing at the Great People's Hall of China on the afternoon of 3 May, and fully discussed trade expansion between the two countries as well as economic cooperation.

At the meeting Chairman Pak Yong-hak predicted trade volume between the two countries will increase to \$5 billion this year thanks to the recent signing of the investment guarantee agreement between Korea and China.

Investment Protection Accord Signed With PRC

SK0205035092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0228 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Hong Kong, May 2 (YONHAP)—South Korea and China concluded a mutual investment guarantee agreement in Beijing on Saturday, according to a Chinese Government press release available here.

It said the agreement, signed by No Chae-won, head of South Korea's trade representative office in China, and Zheng Hongye, chairman of the Chinese Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC), gives each side most-favored-nation and domestic-citizen treatment in major investment activities and guarantees the remittance of profits.

The preamble, 16 articles and 7-article auxiliary memorandum call for the creation of a joint Korea-China committee to discuss investment-related matters.

The pact is expected to take effect before July, after going through necessary ratification procedures, giving Korea's investment in China a strong boost.

As of the end of last year, investment in China by Korean concerns totaled 145 million U.S. dollars in 161 projects.

Economic exchanges between the two nations began to grow after they exchanged trade missions in January 1991. A bilateral trade agreement was concluded in December 1991, and talks began on the investment guarantee as soon as the trade agreement took effect in February.

Seoul seeks to sign double taxation prevention, aviation and maritime shipping agreements with Beijing within the year to put bilateral economic exchanges on track amid prospects that ties between the countries will be normalized before long.

Trade Organization Plans To Open SRV Office

*SK0505065692 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
4 May 92 p 6*

[Text] The Korea Trade Promotion Corporation [Kotra] is planning to open a trade office in Vietnam this month. Thus, economic exchange with Vietnam will likely be very vibrant.

Since the atmosphere took a favorable turn prompted by the recent second-stage relaxation of the U.S. economic blockade against Vietnam, Kotra has accelerated efforts to open a trade office, and has completed discussions with the SRV Government, agreeing to formally open a trade office in Ho Chi Minh City, the crucial commercial city of Vietnam, within this month. This was revealed on 4 May.

A relevant Kotra official said that "since the SRV Government first requested the establishment of trade offices, there would be no problem opening the office this month." He revealed that "negotiating the building's rent in Ho Chi Minh City is almost completed."

Kotra unofficially dispatched one of its employees to Ho Chi Minh City to handle economic cooperation efforts including investment in Vietnam up to now. However, he had to work through the trade office in Bangkok because he was not officially recognized. Thus, he experienced many inconveniences.

Vietnam invited more than 10,000 foreign businessmen last year alone, and realized 383 joint projects, including oil field development, amounting to \$2.8 billion as of the end of January. Vietnam is emerging as an area where foreigners actively invest. However, the advance of ROK businessmen is relatively inactive compared to that of competitive nations including Taiwan which numbered 46 investment cases amounting to \$602 million.

Finance Minister Departs for ADB Meeting

*SK0305033692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0254 GMT
3 May 92*

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—Finance Minister Yi Yong-man left for Hong Kong Sunday morning to attend the third annual meeting of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Monday through Wednesday.

In a keynote speech Tuesday, Yi is expected to ask for regional cooperation among Asian and Pacific countries and temperance of industrial countries in market-opening pressures against developing nations.

The minister, heading a delegation of government and bank officials, will meet with his Japanese counterpart Tsutomu Hata and chiefs of delegation from other key nations to discuss issues of mutual interest and ways to promote ties.

The general meeting will be attended by 52 member countries and observers from Russia and five other members of the Commonwealth of Independent States. North Korea has shown no indication of participation.

High on the agenda are alleviation of poverty in Asian-Pacific region, environment protection and supports to infrastructure expansion.

Japanese Journalist Interviewed on Kim Il-song

*SK0205101992 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
2 May 92 p 10*

[Interview with ASAHI SHIMBUN managing director Matsushita Muneyuki by Pae In-chun in Seoul on 30 April]

[Text] "I received the impression that North Korea's President Kim Il-song will work until he becomes 90 years old. His perception of international affairs was very keen, and he understood very well that North Korea must not be isolated from the international community."

Matsushita Muneyuki, ASAHI SHIMBUN managing director, who covered news for nine days beginning 24 March in Pyongyang on the occasion of President Kim's 80th birthday, is now in Seoul on the invitation of TONG-A ILBO.

While covering news on North Korea, Mr. Matsushita was the editor in chief of the Tokyo headquarters of ASAHI SHIMBUN. Regarding the future of the Kim Il-song system he revealed: "I thought that President Kim Il-song would transfer his power in four-five years, but I received the impression that it will not be that simple."

[Pae In-chun] What was your impression of President Kim?

[Matsushita Muneyuki] Including having lunch with him, I interviewed him for two hours. He had a good appetite and seemed very healthy. He was not shaking in any way, and he personally said, "An ordinary person celebrates his 60th birthday when he turns 60, but celebrating my 60th birthday will be when I turn 90 years old."

[Pae] Kim Chong-il is emerging at the forefront of power, including an official exercise of military power.

[Matsushita] I believe that bringing Kim Chong-il to the fore is not for an immediate need, but is rather a campaign for the transfer of power in the future.

[Pae] How are the Pyongyang authorities dealing with the rapidly changing international situation?

[Matsushita] I received the impression that the Pyongyang authorities are realizing that they must change their policies in conformity with the changes in the international community. They were earnestly feeling the need to improve foreign relations, and were of the position that they must diversify their trade partners to include such countries as the ROK, Japan, and Southeast Asian countries. Recently North Korea changed its policy of many years on the ROK, the United States, and Japan. It seems that this was a final decision made by President Kim.

[Pae] Was North Korea in the position to receive complete nuclear inspection?

[Matsushita] North Korea certainly knew how keen the international community was over the nuclear issue. Whether on its own accord or by another's will, for North Korea to decide to accept nuclear inspection itself is great progress.

[Pae] How do you foresee the establishment of diplomatic relations between the ROK and China, between North Korea and Japan, and between North Korea and the United States?

[Matsushita] North Korea is putting priority on establishing diplomatic relations with the United States, and then on relations with Japan. Of course I believe that establishing diplomatic relations between the ROK and China will be easier. Progress in ROK-Chinese relations will result in promoting North Korean-U.S. relations.

In establishing diplomatic relations with the ROK, China considers that it must not sever relations with North Korea. Therefore, I believe that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the ROK and China will not be carried out that soon.

[Pae] What does Japan expect in improving relations with North Korea?

[Matsushita] First, because it is very dangerous if North Korea becomes isolated, we must make North Korea come out to the international community. There is nothing to expect from North Korea economically at this time, but North Korea is very much interested in establishing a "Japan Sea basin economic bloc" that will link Japan, North and South Korea, and Sakhalin.

Regarding the possibility of Japan's becoming a great military power, Mr. Matsushita emphasized: "That cannot even be considered."

Burma**SLORC Releases Writer Min Theinkha 4 May***BK0405142792 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 4 May 92*

[Excerpts] Writer Min Theinkha, against whom action was taken under existing laws in November 1989 and who was serving his sentence, was released from Insein Central Jail today in accordance with Declaration No. 11/92 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] issued on 24 April 1992. [passage omitted]

Responsible officials from the Directorate of Defense Services Intelligence went to the Insein Central Jail this afternoon and explained SLORC's Declaration No. 11/92 and read out the Order of the Ministry of Home Affairs concerning reduction of jail terms to those who would be released. They were then allowed to meet their family members and were released.

Nine Other Detainees Freed*BK0405125292 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1150 GMT 4 May 92*

[From the program "News in Brief"]

[Text] U Ba Bwa, Daw Win May, Daw Khin San Hlaing, and Daw Ohn Kyi from the National League for Democracy [NLD] against whom action was taken under existing laws in April 1991 and who were serving their sentences; U Par, former chairman of the Democratic Labor Party against whom action was taken under existing laws in October 1991 and who was serving his sentence; and Dr. Khin Tun, former patron of the National Republican Federation Party against whom action was taken under existing laws in March 1990 and who was serving his sentence, were released from Insein Central Jail today in accordance with Declaration No. 11/92 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] issued on 24 April 1992.

Maung Yan Myo Thein, against whom action was taken under existing laws in July 1989 and who was serving his sentence, and Ma Khin Moe Aye and Ma Kaythi Aye, against whom action was taken under existing laws in December 1991 and who were serving their sentences, were also released from Insein Central Jail today in accordance with SLORC Declaration No. 11/92.

Rangoon Said Ending Offensive To Meet Opposition*BK0105111192 Hong Kong AFP in English 0942 GMT
1 May 92*

[Text] Bangkok, May 1 (AFP)—Burma halted military operations against ethnic Karen minority insurgents earlier this week in order to create a favorable climate for forthcoming talks with opposition leaders, a Thai Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said Burma's ambassador to Thailand met Thai Foreign Minister Pongphon Adireksan Friday and told him all military operations were stopped in preparation for the meeting "with various opposition leaders" which will be held within two months.

Burma's ruling junta announced last week that it would meet with opposition leaders to discuss a new constitution within two months. A constitutional assembly would be called within six months after that, Sakthip quoted the ambassador as saying.

"Thailand thinks it is a good move, a good development for Burma and expects that it will lead to a peaceful solution," Sakthip added.

Although operations against Karen guerrillas in the south-east of the country had been halted, representatives of the Kachin ethnic minority guerrilla group based in northern Burma said Friday there was no indication that a large scale offensive against their forces had been stopped.

The Burmese junta has not yet specified which opposition leaders would be invited to the forthcoming meeting. A number of opposition figures have recently been released from jail.

Regime Urges Rebels To Work for Peace*BK0505142792 Hong Kong AFP in English 1021 GMT
5 May 92*

[Text] Rangoon, May 5 (AFP)—Burma's ruling junta appealed on Tuesday to the warring ethnic groups to lay down their arms and instead join the regime to bring about national reunification.

It invited the factions, which have been battling Rangoon for over 40 years, to take "bold and positive steps" and seize a "golden opportunity to take bold and positive steps towards national unity."

The peace call, which was made in an editorial in the state-run WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, is the latest in a series of sudden peace offerings made to the pro-democracy movement since the ousting of junta head General Saw Maung.

Since General Than Shwe took over from Saw Maung late last month the military has begun releasing political prisoners and accepted to take back thousands of Muslims who fled over the border into Bangladesh. It has also eased the restrictions on imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi and called a cease-fire in the war with ethnic Karen rebels.

"Armed groups still fighting against the government should respond to the good will of the military and cooperate in its development efforts," said the paper. It added that should armed organisations wish to indulge in politics this was the time to do so.

"Political parties are slowly gaining experience and the people are clamoring for peace," said the editorial.

"Whether intentionally or unintentionally, minority races had become involved in the armed struggles to the detriment of their overall development," the state paper added, saying that because of insurgent organizations, the government had also been unable to do much in this respect.

However, the paper warned that the junta peace initiative should not be mistaken and taken as a sign of weakness.

Ne Win Wants Portraits Removed From Offices

BK0505094892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0753 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Rangoon, May 5 (AFP)—Former Burmese leader Ne Win, in his first public statement since stepping down in 1988, asked Tuesday that his portraits be removed from government offices where they have remained until now prominently on display.

Analysts here were puzzled by the surprise move by the secretive Ne Win, 81, who ruled Burma from 1962 until July 1988 when he was forced to resign following nationwide pro-democracy protests but is still thought to be the power behind the scenes.

It follows a change of leadership in Burma's ruling military and a softening of its policies marked by releasing political prisoners and allowing detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi to be visited by her British husband for the first time in more than two years.

In an open letter published in the official WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, Ne Win said he wanted his portraits "to be removed from all offices and departments, both civilian and military."

The letter, in Ne Win's own writing and under his signature, appeared in the Burmese-language edition of the paper, but not in the English-language sister paper. It was addressed "to whom it may concern, by the retired president Ne Win," and dated May 4.

Some analysts here believed that the move was an attempt at countering a widespread belief both in Burma and abroad that Ne Win was still pulling the strings. The fact that his portraits have remained prominently displayed in all government offices has often been cited as evidence to support this.

Other analysts speculated that Ne Win's move was sign of displeasure over the current initiatives taken by Rangoon's generals.

Ne Win has made only one public appearance since stepping down, on Burma's Armed Forces Day of March 27, 1989, when he turned up at an official function in full military dress uniform. But he made no statement.

Demonstrations gathering hundreds of thousands in Rangoon and other cities of the southeast Asian nation led to Ne Win's resignation on July 25, 1988.

But after repeated confrontations during which the army fired on unarmed demonstrators in the Burmese capital, the generals openly seized power on September 18.

Late last month General Saw Muang resigned, ostensibly for health reasons, as head of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC)—the ruling military's official name—to be replaced by his deputy, General Than Shwe.

Immediately afterwards the Rangoon regime began to release political prisoners described as no threat to national security.

Aung San Suu Kyi, who last year was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for the struggle for democracy in her country, was also allowed last weekend to receive, for the first time since December 1989, a visit from her husband, British academic Michael Aris.

She has been confined to her home here since July 1989 following her first direct and explicit public attack against Ne Win's rule.

PRC Vice Minister Arrives, Meets Ohn Gyaw

BK0305102092 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] At the invitation of U Ohn Gyaw, foreign minister of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], Mr. Yang Fuchang, vice foreign minister of the People's Republic of China [PRC], together with a five-member delegation, arrived by air at Yangon [Rangoon] in the afternoon.

The vice minister and delegation were welcomed at Yangon airport by U Ba Thwin, director general of the Department of International Organizations and Economics of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; U Aye Lwin, director general of the Department of Consular Affairs, International Agreements, and Research; U Aye, director general of the Political Department; U Lu Maw, deputy director general of the Protocol Department; responsible personnel from the Foreign Ministry; and Mr. Liang Feng, PRC ambassador, and embassy officials.

The PRC vice foreign minister and delegation, accompanied by PRC ambassador Mr. Liang Feng, called on U Ohn Gyaw, foreign minister, at 1800. Also present at the meeting were U Ba Thwin, director general of the Department of International Organizations and Economics of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; U Aye Lwin, director general of Consular Affairs, International Agreements, and Research Department; U Aye, director general of the Political Department; and Thura U Aung Htet, director general of the Protocol Department.

Later, Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw hosted a dinner in honor of the PRC vice foreign minister and delegation at the People's Park restaurant.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore**Malaysia****UN Environment Conference in June Previewed**

*BK0305134092 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 30 Apr 92 p 10*

[Editorial: "On the Road to Rio"]

[Text] There is a potent lesson in the globe-shaking deterioration and degradation of the environment—no country can afford to ignore the environment in its pursuit of development. It is a lesson well understood by the ministers from the developing countries who met in the Second Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development. With wisdom, common sense and realism, they have agreed on a common stance to be presented at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in June as reflected in its declaration.

The declaration calls for a new concept of global partnership in resolving the ailments of Mother Earth—a partnership between the South and North which is based on respect for sovereignty and principles of equity, justice and equality for the achievement of sustainable development.

The developed countries, being the biggest polluters in the world, need to be accountable for the global "greening" agenda. It is unfair of them to ask developing countries to halt growth. Development is the fundamental right of each and every country. If the North does not want the South to repeat its mistakes, then it should help developing countries in their efforts to realise sustained economic growth and development.

The South is suffering from a critical shortage of investment capital and of access to environmentally beneficial technology which makes environmental protection impossible even with the best of intentions. The industrialised world needs to facilitate a transfer of the much-needed technology to the Third World on preferential and concessional terms. Currently, the private ownership of patents and intellectual property rights in these industrialised countries make it difficult for governments to transfer technology on a non-commercial basis.

On the question of financial resources to clean up the environment, the declaration calls for the establishment of a new fund whereby its governance is transparent and democratic in nature to enable an equitable balance between developing and developed countries. Such a fund should also provide access and disbursement to the South without conditions.

The South rightly refuses to budge from its common stand that "green funds" should be independent of the World Bank. Its disagreement on the present mechanism of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), set up in 1990 to finance projects in developing countries that

would clean up their ecological ills, lies in the fact that it is a progeny of the World Bank. If GEF is to work, it needs to distance itself from the World Bank's reputation for secrecy and its penchant for large development projects that do not involve local people in their design or implementation.

The North must show its commitment to save and protect the environment. Ultimately, this means it needs to offer (and not sell) financial and technological assistance. It needs to help with structural economic problems such as massive debt repayment and unjust terms of trade that exacerbate the South's poverty which in turn worsens the environmental problems.

This conference is not a preparation for "rich-poor" war in Rio. It merely points the direction for global action to save the planet—the addressing of current inequities in the global economic system. The success of the Earth Summit depends on the North's recognition of this fact.

Party Opposes Moves To Introduce Islamic Laws

*BK0505121592 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES
in English 3 May 92 p 2*

[Text] Penang, Sat.—DAP [Democratic Action Party] MPs will oppose any move to amend the Federal Constitution to include hudud [Islamic] laws that will also apply to non-Muslims, its deputy chairman Karpal Singh said today.

Speaking to reporters, he said he regretted Kelantan Menteri Besar [Chief Minister] Nik Aziz Nik Mat's persistence in wanting to implement hudud laws in the State by tabling a motion in Parliament.

"The DAP wants to make it very clear that we will oppose to the hilt the move by PAS [Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party] to amend the Federal Constitution.

"The DAP has right from its existence opposed the setting up of an Islamic State in the country on grounds that the Federal Constitution provides for a secular State.

"We have been consistent in our stance despite charges by the MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] and Gerakan [People's Movement] that the DAP is responsible for the move by PAS to provide for hudud laws in Kelantan," he said.

He said the DAP did not at any time agree or encourage PAS to proceed with the establishment of an Islamic State in Kelantan.

"The DAP calls on Nik Aziz to forthwith abandon the move to table a motion to amend the Federal Constitution," he said.

Cambodia

Report From Asian Development Bank Meeting

HK0505012792 Hong Kong AFP in English 0102 GMT
5 May 92

[Text] Hong Kong, May 5 (AFP)—Cambodia's first delegation in two decades to the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) says it hopes to settle its arrears to the bank of almost two million dollars some time this year.

But Ou Orhat, the deputy planning minister who heads the delegation to the three-day meeting in Hong Kong, was vague about the exact timing of the move which would pave the way for a resumption of full-scale lending to Cambodia.

"The debt is quite small," he said in an interview on the sidelines of the meeting which entered its second day Tuesday. "We are going to repay but we don't know when. We consider the issue resolved."

Cambodia, a founding member of the Manila-based bank set up in 1966, has been ineligible for new loans over the past 20 years of civil war, marked by the Khmer Rouge seizing power in 1975 and Vietnam's subsequent invasion in 1978.

But recent moves towards peace, including the establishment of a Supreme National Council (SNC) grouping the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh with three rival factions, has paved the way for renewed technical assistance.

The ADB announced its first technical assistance grant to Cambodia in two decades last week, earmarking 2.4 million dollars towards strengthening the country's economic management. A further 1.5 million dollars has been allocated to Cambodia by the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP).

The bank says its grant, which will be used to hire four long-term resident advisers and short-term assistants in Cambodia, will pave the way for a stabilisation program by the Washington-based International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The grant will also be used for training courses on market economies and study tours by Cambodians to other developing members of the ADB.

The IMF, like its regional Asian counterpart, is unable to resume full-scale lending to Cambodia until the government there settles its bigger arrears with the multilateral agency. The deputy minister said the government wanted to settle its IMF arrears soon as well but was also vague about the timing.

National Bank of Cambodia deputy governor Tha Yao meanwhile said five foreign banks were now preparing to set up branches or joint ventures in Cambodia in the wake of a new venture with Thailand's Siam Commercial Bank Ltd.

France's Banque Indosuez and Bangkok Bank Ltd. of Thailand are both taking steps to set up branches while joint ventures are being prepared by Thai Farmers Bank Ltd. and Malaysia's Public Bank Bhd., he said.

The joint ventures are being established with the central bank, the deputy governor said, adding that finding suitable buildings was causing delays.

The Cambodian delegation to the ADB meeting, although led by two officials from the government of Prime Minister Hun Sen, includes the two non-communist factions of the SNC but not the Khmer Rouge.

Penn Thol, a member of the SNC Secretariat, represents the faction of former prime minister Son Sann. The former Cambodian diplomat said he recently returned to Phnom Penh after living for two decades in Japan where he still has a Japanese wife and four children.

Lim Lay Prohoas, the youngest member and arguably the most dashing of all the official delegates at this year's ADB meeting, is responsible for financial matters in the faction led by the son of SNC head Prince Norodom Sihanouk. He returned to Phnom Penh from 10 years in Australia where he studied to be an accountant.

Japanese Construction Minister Pays Visit

Meets Say Chhum

BK0405054692 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon
Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT
3 May 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Say Chhum, standing member of the Central Committee of the Cambodian People's Party and standing vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, received a delegation of the Japanese Construction Ministry at the office of the Council of Ministers on the morning of 2 May.

H.E. Yamasaki Taku, Japanese construction minister, expressed profound thanks to the party and government of the State of Cambodia for creating favorable conditions for the delegation of the Japanese Construction Ministry to seek facts in Cambodia. He added that the consolidation and expansion of the solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Cambodia and Japan, particularly in the construction field, was important to the national reconstruction. He also promised to send experts to help study, carry on research, and map out plans [words indistinct] water problem, electricity, Chruoy Changva bridge, and roads.

In his reply, H.E. Say Chhum expressed profound thanks to the Japanese Government and people for giving moral and material assistance to the Cambodian people. He also recalled the implementation of the Paris agreement by the four factions, stressing that although the opposition groups, especially the Pol Pot group, have violated and refused to implement the agreement, the State of

Cambodia has patiently strived to seek 100-percent peace, security, and happiness for the Cambodian people.

Talks With Prince Chakkrapong

*BK0405064292 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0416 GMT 4 May 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 4—Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, vice premier of the State of Cambodia, met in Phnom Penh on May 1 with Yamasaki Taku, construction minister of Japan, who paid a two-day visit to Cambodia.

Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, son of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, expressed thanks to Japan's economic contribution to the peace operation in Cambodia and the Japanese cooperation with the Supreme National Council (SNC) and the State of Cambodia.

He wished the Japanese Government to contribute personnel to the operation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

The prince said he hoped Japan would help rehabilitate Cambodia and also informed the Japanese minister of the need for construction buildings and establishments and the lack of materials for schools, tourism and communications.

For his part, Taku said he would report to the Japanese Government on Cambodia's request to send Japanese servants to join UNTAC. Japan schedules to hold talks on the Japanese personnels to UNTAC in June, he said [sentence as received].

Received by Chea Sim

*BK0405064092 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0414 GMT 4 May 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 4—Chea Sim, president of the Cambodian People's Party, received here on May 1 Yamasaki Taku, construction minister of Japan who paid a two-day visit to Cambodia.

Chea Sim, who is also president of the National Council of the United Front, congratulated the Japanese role in the peace process in Cambodia and expressed thanks to the Japanese efforts in study for rebuilding the "Chruoy Changva" bridge in Phnom Penh which constructed by Japan.

He expressed warm welcome to the Japanese guests and said that the Japanese delegation's presence here coincided with the application of the peace agreement signed in Paris last year.

Strict Adherence to Paris Agreement Urged

*BK0305112992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great
National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian
2330 GMT 2 May 92*

[“Article”: “It Is Always Necessary To Stick to the 23 October Paris Agreement”]

[Text] To this day, there is lots of evidence showing the Vietnamese aggressors and their accomplices are not implementing the Paris agreement according to its essence. Instead, they have tried to find every means available to alter the real essence of the agreement to legitimize Vietnam's act of aggression and continued occupation of Cambodia. Here is the evidence:

1. Vietnam and its accomplices use the trick of hindering and avoiding the implementation of the clause on the control of Vietnamese aggressor forces. This is to provide Vietnam with the opportunity to send troops and weapons to attack Cambodian national resistance forces for a full dry season. This is still continuing.
2. They also give excuses for not totally dissolving the Cambodian armies. This is to enable Vietnam to continue maintaining its aggressor forces within the Phnom Penh Army.
3. Vietnam and its accomplices use every means to elevate and legitimize the administration it has propped up as a smokescreen in Phnom Penh while repressing the role of the quadripartite Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] which the Paris agreement says is Cambodia's only state authority during the transition.
4. Various methods have been used to legitimize and elevate the Vietnamese-installed regime in Phnom Penh. This has been done through propaganda, visits, or granting aid in different forms to the Phnom Penh administration and so on.

People realize that these acts do not help in the implementation of the 23 October agreement. Neither do they help end the war or reconcile the nation. The Cambodian nation and people see these as violations of the Paris agreement. They prolong the war and split the nation so that Cambodia and its people will fall into the hands of the Vietnamese aggressors forever.

This situation is causing the Cambodian nation and people in and outside the country to stick firmly to every clause of the Paris agreement, particularly its key clauses:

1. The United Nations and the four Cambodian parties will control the withdrawal of all types of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia and prevent these forces from returning to Cambodia;
2. All four Cambodian parties' Armed Forces will disarm and be dissolved by 100 percent;
3. The SNC decides everything in and outside the country;

4. No aid should be given to the Phnom Penh side which is propped up by Vietnam. Aid should be given to the SNC.

Additional Slogan on SNC Role Reported

BK0305102492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 May 92

["New Slogans"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted on points 1 to 13 of new slogans]

14. The Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] is the legitimate organization and sole source of power representing Cambodia's sovereignty, independence, and unity during the entire transitional period. There is no other state authority.

Therefore, the SNC must play a political role and administer everything in the country. Everything should go through the SNC. Construction and all kinds of economic assistance should also go through the SNC and not through the Phnom Penh side. The Paris agreement should be directed by the SNC and not the Phnom Penh side.

Only when the SNC plays its administrative role during the transitional period can there be four parties and national reconciliation in accordance with the Paris agreement. However, if some bad elements want to sabotage and prevent the SNC from having power and want the Phnom Penh group, propped up by the Vietnamese aggressors, to have the rights and power to administer the country during the transitional period, we must protest that this is completely contrary to the Paris agreement. If this occurs there will be no security and peace, national reconciliation will not be achieved, and war will continue. The Cambodian nation and people cannot accept this.

Khieu Samphan Letter on UN Chief's Aid Appeal

BK0505041492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 4 May 92

[26 April letter from Supreme National Council members Khieu Samphan and Son Sen to Yasushi Akashi, UN special envoy and United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia chief, on Democratic Kampuchea's stance regarding aid to Cambodia—read by announcer]

[Text] 26 April 1992

To His Excellency Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary general and head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], Phnom Penh.

Your Excellency: We are honored to inform you of our Democratic Kampuchea [DK]'s stance regarding the UN secretary general's draft appeal for aid to serve the urgent need and to rebuild Cambodia.

On 19 April, we wrote a letter to his excellency the secretary general and handed over a copy of this letter to your excellency. Moreover, we had a direct discussion with the UN secretary general on this matter in your presence. His excellency the secretary general told us that the UN stance on Cambodia was to deal with the four factions as equals without being partial toward any one party. We would like to reiterate our stance and principle regarding this document as follows:

1. It is necessary to rewrite (?the prologue of) this document to avoid any distortion of Cambodia's history and the omission of the facts about the war of aggression in Cambodia.

Our Cambodian people cannot forget the immense destruction in the past 13 and a half years wreaked on our nation and people by the foreign aggressors who even ruined and looted Cambodia's national property.

2. However, the most important issue is the matter of principle.

First, all aid must be given to the Supreme National Council [SNC], which is the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transition period. No party should be allowed to play a predominant role over the others, nor should the aid be given to any party alone, thus affecting the interests of the other parties.

Second, the SNC and UNTAC are to cooperate in controlling and managing all these affairs. This means that only the SNC and UNTAC are authorized to decide on, manage, and monitor the implementation of all decisions. It does not mean that their duty is just to ask for aid on behalf of the SNC and hand it over to any party for management as mentioned in the draft appeal and that the UNTAC should cooperate only with the Phnom Penh side in managing the aid as mentioned in the draft appeal.

The two principles mentioned above closely link with the respect for another important point of the agreement, that is the point which says that the SNC is the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period.

In sum, whether this appeal for aid and the management of aid in line with the agreement can be carried out or not, it depends on the Phnom Penh faction. Therefore, if the Phnom Penh side comes to terms with three other Cambodian factions in arranging for the SNC to enjoy its right and power and have sufficient means in its capacity as the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period, there will be no obstacle to the appeal for aid to serve urgent needs and to rebuild Cambodia. Only by so doing will it be in line with the essence of the Paris agreement. It will be a violation of the Paris agreement if the aid is given to just one party alone, thus enabling it to have the advantage over the three other parties.

This draft appeal only helps a party which was installed in Cambodia by foreign forces.

In the current situation in which foreign aggressor forces are still carrying on their aggression against Cambodia, such aid will certainly help the foreign aggressor forces to continue their presence in Cambodia. Moreover, helping a party have the advantage over the others seriously affects the agreement, particularly the arrangement of a free and fair election in Cambodia.

The above is our Democratic Kampuchea's stance that we would like to inform you. We are firmly convinced that your excellency will take appropriate measures.

Please accept our highest regards

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, member of the SNC and head of Democratic Kampuchea; Son Sen, member of the SNC and deputy head of Democratic Kampuchea

Deputy Premier Chakkrapong on Current Situation

*BK0205053092 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0428 GMT 2 May 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 2—Vice Premier Chakkrapong received here Thursday Mr. Raoul Jennar, representative of the European Centre on Far East Research, now on a visit to Cambodia.

The visit, which is scheduled for 17 days ending on May 9, is aimed at seeing how the Paris peace agreement is being implemented in Cambodia.

Speaking to his guest, Prince Norodom Chakkrapong said the Government of the State of Cambodia has prepared system of national reconstruction, by requesting foreign investors to send its experts to help train Cambodians.

Cambodia drafted more investment laws and suggested the foreign companies in Cambodia to properly comply with these laws to guarantee the Cambodian people's interests, Prince Chakkrapong said.

The State of Cambodia, he said, tried its best to strictly implement the Paris peace accord and facilitate the operations of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

Mr. Raoul Jennar, thanked Prince Norodom Chakkrapong for his clear information on the current situation in Cambodia.

Defense Ministry Rejects Marking Minefield

*BK0205052092 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0423 GMT 2 May 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 2—The spokesman of the Defense Ministry of the State of Cambodia denied here Friday the AGENCE FRANCE PRESS's report on April 28 which quoted the high ranking military officer of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Alan Beaver, the New Zealander in charge of U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia demining program said the Phnom Penh government's Army and the Khmer Rouge both are stubbornly refusing to mark their minefields and challenging the other to be the first to do so.

The officer also said that the two factions are "blaming one another for not marking their own minefields because they believe they require them tactically".

The spokesman said the Ministry of National Defense categorically rejected the information which said the Phnom Penh government's Army refused to mark its own minefields to UNTAC.

The State of Cambodia's Army has so far closely cooperated with UNAMIC [UN Advance Mission in Cambodia] and UNTAC in locating minefields under the government controlled areas, joining UNTAC in demining operations in a number of strategic zones, and providing facilities and materials to UNAMIC and UNTAC for their demining duties, he said.

Most recently, the government's Army has joined UNTAC to clear mines being newly laid by the Khmer Rouge along road 12 in Kompong Thom Province, the spokesman said.

The Ministry of National Defense of the State of Cambodia considered AFP's report groundless information creating a confused atmosphere for pursuing cooperation in demining operations in Cambodia, he added.

UNTAC Chief Clarifies Statement

*BK0405160092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1154 GMT
5 May 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 4 (AFP)—Three of the four Cambodian factions are "cooperating completely" with U.N. efforts to mark the country's minefields but the Khmer Rouge [KR] are dragging their feet, a top U.N. officer said here Monday.

Colonel Alan Beaver, the New Zealander who heads the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) demining program, was clarifying his statement last week that both the Khmer Rouge and the Phnom Penh government were refusing to be the first to mark their minefields.

The criticism was directed only at local Phnom Penh and Khmer Rouge commanders who have been clashing sporadically in central Kompong Thom province, he told a press conference.

"In all other areas the State of Cambodia (Phnom Penh) has been cooperating completely" with U.N. efforts to map and clear minefields, he said.

On the other hand, "Khmer Rouge cooperation has been difficult," Beaver said.

"Their reasoning is that minefields form an important part of their tactical plan," Beaver said.

UNTAC military chief General John Sanderson of Australia, who has repeatedly brought up Khmer Rouge non-cooperation in weekly meetings with generals from the four factions, has countered by reminding the Khmer Rouge that they signed the October peace treaty.

"We tell them, 'You don't need a tactical plan'," Beaver said.

While marking has not yet begun in the disputed zone of Kompong Thom, the two factions have begun talks on the issue with local U.N. officers, he said.

The two non-communist guerrilla factions, which were loosely allied to the Khmer Rouge during Cambodia's 13-year war, have "cooperated fully" with UNTAC in marking minefields, he said.

Two fighters from the royalist Armee Nationale de Kampuchea Independent were killed early last month while marking minefields, he added.

The marking of Cambodia's minefields is essential to implement the Paris treaty, which calls for troops of the warring factions to be demobilized or placed in cantonments while some 370,000 refugees are brought back to their homeland from camps on the Thai border.

Phnom Penh General Kwann Seam, addressing the same press conference, accused the Khmer Rouge of laying mines since the peace treaty in the western Province of Battambang, near the central Cambodian temple of Angkor Watt, along Route 12 in Kompong Thom and in neighboring Preah Vihear Province.

"While our people are clearing mines they even try to lay down mines behind us," he said.

Phnom Penh's forces have not laid a single mine since the Paris treaty despite the clashes in Kompong Thom, the general said.

In addition to mapping minefields and clearing mines, Phnom Penh's Army has cooperated with UNTAC by supplying soldiers to be trained to clear mines, he said.

But he acknowledged that the defense ministry has asked that UNTAC pay the mine-clearers 350 dollars per month, rather than the current wage of 70 dollars.

"Those who join the landmine program will risk their lives," he said, explaining why they should be paid about five times more than other local U.N. employees such as drivers.

A Phnom Penh soldier currently earns about seven dollars per month for risking his life, with his salary often going unpaid for several months.

Beaver said the issue was under negotiation.

More SRV War Materiel Sent to Preah Vihear

BK0505045292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] People in Stung Treng Province reported on 30 April that on 28 April, the Vietnamese aggressors sent eight truckloads of ammunition and war materiel across the Mekong River westward via Thalabarivat District to their forces in Preah Vihear Province for continuing to kindle the Vietnamese war of aggression.

Within half a month, that is since 15 April, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction sent ammunition and war materiel to their forces in Phreah Vihear Province via Stung Treng Province on three occasions.

The people in Stung Treng Province strongly oppose this activity of the Vietnamese aggressors in transporting ammunition and war materiel through roads from Stung Treng to Preah Vihear Province.

The people firmly demand that the Vietnamese aggressors end their acts in violation of the Paris agreement and the cease-fire accord. They demand the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia and Cambodia's Supreme National Council to set up clear checkpoints in Stung Treng Province in order to avoid the Vietnamese aggressors from transporting troops, ammunition, and war materiel to their forces for carrying on the war in Cambodia.

General Wants UNTAC To Take Route 12 From KR

BK3005095392 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0403 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 30 Apr (SPK)—Brigadier General Phuong Siphon, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF], received on 27 April Mr. Raoul Jennar, director of the European Center for Research on Far East.

The general informed his guest about the current situation in Kompong Thom Province and cooperation between the Defense Ministry of the State of Cambodia [SOC] and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], underlining that the Phnom Penh side respects the Paris accord inspite of violations by the Khmer Rouge [KR].

He said the KR have seized their military positions, including Route 12. However, the SOC has shown restraint to preserve the Paris accord so that general elections can be held as scheduled.

Gen. Siphon said the region along Route 12 should be placed under the UNTAC control after the withdrawal of the KR, who have illegally occupied it. He added that the Phnom Penh Government is studying a project to establish a joint General Staff of the four parties in Kompong Thom.

The general reaffirmed that the SOC is fully implementing the accord, notably the 70 percent demobilization of the four armies. He called on international

organizations to assist Cambodia in technical and vocational training to rehabilitate demobilized personnel.

SRV Agents Searching for Resistance Force Bases

BK0505063392 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] According to reports from all areas, Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction have continued to send their forces and members of the Phnom Penh faction's A-3 unit to seek information on the whereabouts of the bases of the Cambodian national resistance forces in people's liberated villages everywhere in preparation for attacks to be launched by their forces at any time, particularly after the disarming.

The reports added that these agents of the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction disguise themselves as farmers and people pretending to visit their children and relatives in the national resistance forces' units. Moreover, they have tried to seek ways to destroy and loot (?people).

This clearly shows that the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction have carried on their schemes to kindle the war in Cambodia so that they can occupy Cambodia forever. [words indistinct] Cambodian people everywhere have become even more aware of the true face of the Vietnamese aggressors and their allies.

The Cambodian people will not allow the Vietnamese aggressors to do anything at will. As victims, the people have the full right to do anything possible in order to check and smash the schemes of the Vietnamese aggressors until they are compelled to correctly implement all points in the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

The Cambodian people call on the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia and the Supreme National Council to supervise the withdrawal of all categories of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia and quickly dismantle the Armed Forces of all Cambodian factions, including the A-3 unit.

Communique of SNC 20 April Meeting Reported

BK2204132492 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1102 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 22—A communique of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC) was issued in Phnom Penh on April 20 at the end of its regular meeting under his royal chairmanship of Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

The six point communique reads as follows:

"Statements were made by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and by Mr. Akashi.

"The SNC and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] reviewed the latest developments in the situation in Cambodia. These included the appeal made

by the secretary-general of the United Nations on 20 April 1992 for voluntary funds for the rehabilitation of Cambodia and the findings of the United Nations inter-agency mission sent to examine the situation of persons displaced by fighting in Kompong Thom.

"Statements were made by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and by Mr. Akashi, Mr. Khieu Samphan and Mr. Hun Sen.

"Mr. Akashi presented a note on the exercise of the rights of association and proposed the creation of an association called the 'Cambodian Mine Action Centre' (CMK). The SNC agreed in principle to the note and to the creation of CMAC.

"Statements were made by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and by Mr. Akashi, Mr. Hor Namhong, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Mr. Hun Sen and Son Sann.

"Mr. Akashi presented the responses made by the electoral component of the transitional authority to the questions posed by members of the SNC.

"A discussion took place on various aspects of the draft election law, including the use for campaign purposes of portraits of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and the question of voting rights for Cambodian resident overseas. No decision was reached on these matters.

"Statements were made by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and by Mr. Akashi, General Sanderson, Mr. Son Sann and Mr. Khieu Samphan.

"General Sanderson announced the current state of military deployment of the transitional authority, and presented a statement on the situation concerning cantonment sites and the establishment of the first check point. It was noted that should the decision be taken to commence phase II of the cease-fire in early June, four weeks notice would have to be given beforehand.

"A proposal was made concerning the role of the SNC and the creation of neutral political environment.

"Statements were made by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and by Mr. Akashi.

"Mr. Akashi thanked His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk for announcing that the transitional authority would be able to use three buildings belonging to one of the parties. He also presented to His Royal Highness the draft agreement between the Supreme National Council and the United Nations on the status of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

"Statements were made by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and by Mr. Akashi, Mr. Im Chhunlim, Mr. Hor Namhong, Mr. Hun Sen, Mr. Khieu Samphan and Mr. Son Sann. Proposals were made concerning natural resources, pollution and protocol matters.

"Mr. Akashi presented a draft declaration of the Supreme National Council concerning the principle of recognition and equivalence of the diplomas and qualifications of the Cambodian returnees. No objection was expressed to this draft declaration.

"He also presented principles for involvement by the Transitional Authority in investigations of human rights complaints. These were adopted in principle by the SNC.

"The next meeting will take place on 7 May 1992.

Indonesia

Suharto, Ozawa Discuss Economic Blocs

OW0405085092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0811 GMT
4 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 4 KYODO—President Suharto and Ichiro Ozawa, former secretary general of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, agreed Monday that Japan and Indonesia need to cooperate closely in supporting and developing an open market in response to international trends favoring the formation of trading blocs. The Indonesian president remarked that the formation of European and American economic blocs is a matter of concern, Japanese officials said.

Ozawa stressed all Asian nations need to try to prevent the growth of isolationism in the United States, adding that it is necessary to develop a free trading system which involves the U.S. Suharto told Ozawa he looks forward to private Japanese investment in Indonesia, which recently moved to allow 100 percent investment with foreign capital in domestic projects where it had been prohibited before.

Investment Mission Ends Visit to Australia

BK0105133392 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1042 GMT
1 May 92

[Text] Brisbane, Australia, May 1 (OANA/ANTARA)—A 30-member Indonesian investment delegation ended a week-long Australian mission on Thursday.

The investment delegation, in its meeting led by Sugihono Kadarisman, deputy chairman of the Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM), came to the conclusion that Australian businessmen had high motivation to establish economic cooperation with their Indonesian partners.

The meeting also underlined the need for Indonesian businessmen to constantly make contact with their Australian partners wishing to do business in Indonesia.

"Don't miss these good opportunities," said Benny Yonosisworo, member of the delegation.

Kadarisman said Australia now feels "lonely" as it is left behind by its Western partners.

"We should take the advantage of these opportunities to enhance the economic relations between the two countries," he said.

Australian businessmen have considered us an equal partner, Kadarisman added.

The Australian-Indonesian economic relations are complementary in nature, he said, adding that Australia saw Indonesia not as a competitor. "This is beneficial to the two parties," he added.

Noting that Australia once backed Indonesia's struggle against colonial rule, he said, historical factors will also favor increased economic relations between the two countries.

In Jakarta, the minister of mines and fisheries of Western Australia's midwest region, Gordon Hill, assisting the minister for state development with special responsibility for trade, acknowledged that Australian businessmen expected to set up more joint venture plants in Indonesia.

Hill was responding to the statement by Indonesia's Industry Minister Hartarto after the opening of the Australia-Indonesia '92 exhibition in Jakarta recently.

Hartarto said Australian businessmen would be invited to establish more joint ventures in Indonesia for various industrial products, particularly in the manufacture of capital goods.

He said by manufacturing products in Indonesia, the country could reduce its spending for imported capital goods, which have reached some 5 billion U.S. dollars annually.

Ministry Hails Transfer of Power in Afghanistan

BK0405135292 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia
Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] The Indonesian Government has welcomed the transfer of power from the old Kabul regime to the interim Afghan Islamic Council headed by Sebghatollah Mojaddedi. A press release issued by the Foreign Affairs Department in Jakarta today said the Indonesian Government also called on the rival factions to work together toward a new era of peace, reconciliation, and reconstruction following the long struggle and sufferings of the Afghan people.

Students Protest Burmese Abuse of Rohingyas

BK0105171292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0340 GMT
1 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 1 (AFP)—A group of about 30 Moslem students from nearby Bandung demonstrated Friday outside the Burmese Embassy here to protest the treatment of Moslems in Burma.

More than 250,000 Moslem Rohingyas have taken refuge in Bangladesh in recent months, fleeing alleged atrocities by Burmese troops.

"We condemn all oppression and tyranny by the military regime in Myanmar (Burma) on the Moslem Rohingyas," said a statement handed to an embassy official by demonstrators representing the Bandung Moslem Student Association.

Their statement accused Rangoon of violating human rights and called on the regime to allow the Rohingyas to practice freely their religion.

It also called on Jakarta to take up the Rohingya issue in international fora to achieve a comprehensive settlement.

The demonstration passed off peacefully, with students dispersing after the statement was handed to the embassy.

Information Agreement Signed With Singapore

BK3005104592 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Indonesia and Singapore have agreed to undertake information cooperation programs covering radio, television, and film broadcasting, press, the exchanges of visits, general information, education, and training. An agreement to this effect was signed in Jakarta today by Emir H. Mangawenang, secretary general of the Department of Information as chairman of the Indonesian team and Goh Kim Leong, permanent secretary of the Singapore Ministry of Information and the Arts as chairman of the Singapore team.

Secretary General Emir H. Mangawenang told newsmen that the agreement was part of the efforts to enhance broadcasting to counter the negative impact of the growing inflow of information from outside ASEAN and to realize the proposal for a common ASEAN broadcasting network. The agreement was a follow-up to a memorandum of understanding signed by the Indonesian and Singapore information ministers in Singapore on 30 November 1989. The implementation of the memorandum was agreed upon during the first three-day session of the Joint Technical Commission on understanding broadcasting and information between the two departments that began in Jakarta on 28 April.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Guatemala

BK3004151692 Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian 0912 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Excerpt] New York, 30/4 (ANTARA)—Indonesia and Guatemala have formally established diplomatic relations. A joint communique on the establishment of their diplomatic relations was signed in New York on Wednesday.

The signing ceremony took place at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations. The Indonesian Government was represented by Ambassador Nana Sutresna, permanent representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations, while the Guatemalan Government was represented by

Rafael Castellanos Carrillo, Guatemalan charge d'affaires to the United Nations. [passage omitted]

South, North Should Not Quarrel at Rio Meet

BK0405102892 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has expressed his hope that issues to be discussed at the environment and development meeting in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, in June will not become points of controversy between South and North countries. Speaking to reporters after meeting with President Suharto at the Binagraha presidential office in Jakarta this morning, Minister Alatas said disagreements may arise at the Rio meet due to different views and perspectives adopted by developed and developing countries. If it turns out that participants make demands on one another, it is hoped that a sense of mutually beneficial partnership will still prevail.

Protest Crosses Removed From Embassy in Canberra

BK0305144292 Hong Kong AFP in English 1038 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Canberra, May 2 (AFP)—Australian police Sunday removed more than 100 crosses placed outside the Indonesian Embassy here by East Timorese supporters, under orders from Foreign Minister Gareth Evans.

An Australian Federal Police spokesman said the crosses, to remember East Timorese massacred by the Indonesian military in Dili in November, were removed following the issue of a certificate by Evans.

East Timorese and their supporters replaced the crosses April 17 after they won a Federal Court case in which a regulation, which binds the host government to ensure the dignity of foreign missions is not impaired, used by Evans to have the crosses removed from outside the embassy in January was ruled invalid.

Federal Court Judge Howard Olney found the regulation invalid and a misuse of the government's power in his decision handed down on April 16.

A lawyer representing the East Timorese, Bernard Collaery, told reporters he would seek restoration of the crosses in the Federal Court in Melbourne Monday.

Collaery said Evans had amended the regulation slightly and issued a certificate Sunday under the amended regulation. Collaery maintained the new regulation was also invalid.

The Sydney-based East Timor Independence Committee said it deeply regretted what it described as Evans' move "to stifle freedom of expression in Australia."

Police handed the 121 crosses to Collaery for safe-keeping.

A spokesman for Evans said the minister had spoken to members of the East Timorese community last week in a bid to get them to agree to move the crosses away from the embassy.

East Timor community spokeswoman Ines Almeida labelled the Australian Government "bootlickers" to Jakarta.

She said: "Australia is already losing its reputation in the eyes of the many governments throughout the world which continue to support our struggle for self-determination, justice, and liberty."

An Indonesian investigation into the massacre at Dili's Santa Cruz cemetery found 50 people died when soldiers opened fire on a crowd of mourners.

But independent witnesses put the death toll at more than 100.

Laos

U.S. Senator Confirms No MIAs in Indochina

BK0105163492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] In a news conference in Washington on 27 April, U.S. Senator John Kerry, who has just visited Indochina, said: There is no evidence to prove that Vietnam and Laos still hold American prisoners of war. There is also no indication of living American MIAs remaining in Indochina.

Following his delegation's visit to Indochina, John Kerry, chairman of the U.S. Senate committee in charge of the MIA issue, reiterated that his committee has of yet received no information from any news sources about any living American MIAs remaining in Indochina.

Kaysone Phomvihan Returns From DPRK, PRC Visits

BK0305133592 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] On the afternoon of 3 May, Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], and delegation returned to Vientiane by a special plane after ending their official visits to the DPRK and the PRC.

During the DPRK visit, President Kaysone Phomvihan met and exchanged views with president of state and other DPRK leaders with a view to increasingly promote and develop the long-standing friendship and cooperation between the parties and governments of the LPDR and the DPRK. President Kaysone Phomvihan also attended celebrations marking the 80th birth anniversary of President Kim Il-song and the 60th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army.

After ending the official visit to the DPRK, President Kaysone Phomvihan proceeded to the PRC for an official visit at the invitation of PRC President Yang Shangkun.

At the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Yang Shangkun, president; Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee; and Li Peng, prime minister of the PRC separately and warmly received President Kaysone Phomvihan. The PRC leaders exchanged views on many areas with our Lao leader to further enhance ever more fruitfully, the friendship and cooperation between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries.

After visiting Beijing, President Kaysone Phomvihan traveled to some economic and cultural establishments in Guangdong Province and Kunming in Yunnan Province. At all the places he visited, President Kaysone Phomvihan and his delegation were warmly welcomed by local leaders and people. He was briefed on the economic and cultural development in each area.

At the Wattai Airport, a ceremony was held to honorably welcome President Kaysone Phomvihan. After standing for the national anthem, President Kaysone Phomvihan inspected the guard of honor of the Lao People's Army and shook hands with various dignitaries who were there to welcome him back. Among them were Nouhak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, and Khamtai Siphandon, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and prime minister of the LPDR. Also welcoming President Kaysone Phomvihan and delegation were other Political Bureau members of the party Central Committee, members of the party Central Committee, ministers or deputy ministers, and a large number of high-ranking cadres from various ministries. Kim Choun-nam, charge d'affaires ad interim of the DPRK, and (Qiao Mujiang), charge d'affaires ad interim of the PRC to Laos, were also at the airport to welcome President Kaysone Phomvihan and delegation.

Defense Minister Greets PRC Defense Delegates

BK0105132492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Yesterday morning, Lieutenant General Choum-mali Sai-ngason, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and minister of national defense, received the delegation of the Foreign Affairs Department of the National Defense Ministry of the People's Republic of China [PRC], led by Major General Fu Jiaping, head of the department, who paid him a courtesy call.

During the meeting between the guests and the hosts amidst the extremely friendly atmosphere, Maj. Gen. Fu Jiaping conveyed regards from General Qin Jiwei, PRC minister of national defense to the Lao national defense minister. He also informed the Lao minister of the objectives of the visit to Laos by the delegation.

The Lao minister highly praised the visit to Laos by the Chinese delegation, since he believed it would significantly contribute to further strengthening friendship and cooperation between the two countries—Laos and China—and their Armed Forces.

On the same occasion, Lt. Gen. Choummali also briefed the visitors on the current situation in Laos, the immediate tasks of the Lao People's Army [LPA], and Laos' policies toward its neighbors.

The Chinese delegation left Vientiane safely at about noon on the same day. They were seen off at the Wattai Airport by Colonel Somphon Keomisai, head of the office of the National Defense Ministry and other officials in the Foreign Affairs Department of the National Defense Ministry. Colonel (Wu Naixen), PRC military attache to Laos, was also present at the airport to see them off.

Earlier, the Chinese delegation paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant Colonel Ai Souli-gnaseng, member of the LPRP Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the LPA General Staff Department, on 29 April.

During their stay in Laos, the Chinese delegates also visited the high-level military academy, primary combined corps training school, Infantry Unit A, the Nam Ngum hydro-electric dam, and a number of ancient places in Vientiane.

Indochinese Post, Telecom Cooperation Pact Signed

BK0205104492 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Vientiane, May 2 (KPL)—Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia signed here on April 28 memorandum on cooperation in post and telecommunications.

Signatories to the memorandum were the heads of the three delegations attending a conference on post and telecommunications of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia held recently in Vientiane.

The cooperation document indicates that the three countries will continue improving telecommunications between Laos-Vietnam, Laos-Cambodia, and Vietnam-Cambodia and operating existing telecommunications facilities, earth satellite stations. The sides will also operate the plane in service of mail cargo and exchange experience on maintenance of the existing telecommunications facilities designed to render its service more efficient.

Timber Exports To Be Suspended by 30 May

BK0305102792 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] On 20 April, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry issued an announcement to all provincial governors and the lord mayor of Vientiane Municipality on

setting 30 May 1992 as the day for ceasing timber exports of all kinds from all localities for fiscal year 1991. The announcement reads:

Implementing Decree No. 67/N.Y. issued by the prime minister on 26 August 1991 on the cessation of timber exploitation throughout the country, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry issued Announcement No. 0007/P.P. dated 21 January 1992 to all provinces and services concerned for acknowledgement on timber exploitation, setting up factories, and selling timber to foreign countries. Recently, however, it has been noticed that the export of logs and processed timber claimed to have been the residual products of 1991 continues unabatedly in some provinces. Some export companies have [words indistinct] by submitting requests to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministry of Trade and Tourism continued to export timber to other countries. However, many other companies in some provinces have not paid this any attention.

To avoid (?illegal operations) and violations of the prime minister's decree no. 67/N.Y., the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, in consultation with the Ministry of Trade and Tourism, would like to inform all provinces that 30 May 1992 has been set as the last day for exporting all kinds of timber by all localities. All wood processing factories in all provinces will henceforth have only the right to process timber from logs felled with approval of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. These logs come from forests which have already been officially surveyed and classified for its economic viability to be turned into products for use only within the respective provinces. As for the future export of timber, only the center, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, with the collaboration of the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Finance and the Ministry of Trade and Tourism, have the sole right to carry out this business.

Therefore, the administrations of all provinces and Vientiane Municipality and all services concerned are hereby notified of this announcement for strict implementation.

Oudom Khatthi-Gna Addresses May Day Rally

BK0205110092 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Vientiane, May 2 (KPL)—The Vientiane chapter of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions, yesterday held at the Vientiane theater a 1000-strong mass rally marking the International Labour Day day.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Oudom Khatthi-gna, member of the Political Bureau of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee], reminded the crowd of the struggling tradition of the international workers' movement and the significance of the day.

He also talked about the complex situation in the region and the world. In this connection, he called upon Lao workers and labouring people to increase unity among

themselves in order to together struggle for their rights. On the other hand, Mr. Oudom Khatthi-gna asked the workers and the general public to enhance their unity and vigilance in channelling efforts for constructing and defending the nation so the socioeconomic targets for 1992 can be fulfilled.

Philippines

Manglapus: No U.S., Japan Meddling in Elections

HK0505091292 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 May 92

[By Rey Arquiza—italicized passage in English]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus today said he does not know whether the United States and Japan are meddling in the coming elections in the country. He admitted that the two countries are involved in intelligence gathering but this is normal and they are expected to do this. According to Manglapus, he has not observed any indication of meddling in the country's politics by the two countries. He also admitted that the two countries are conducting their own surveys to know who of the seven presidential candidates would win. Manglapus said: *But influencing the election is something else. I don't notice that in any way. In fact they have been very cautious, even in making statements.*

Mitra's Use of Government Resources Discovered

Called 'Highest Crime'

HK0205073992 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 2 May 92

[Excerpts] The National Assembly building has been closed, barring anybody from entering or leaving the premises, including reporters and congressmen who are in the building. This incident is related to the discovery by Congressman Amante of the National Union of Christian Democrats of the printing of sample ballots [as heard] for some Struggle of Filipino Democrats candidates headed by House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. Here is Congressman Amante's statement:

[Begin Amante recording in English] Mitra's camp is using public funds, public resources for their campaign, especially the House's. I am a lawyer. I know that under the election code, you cannot use government printing paper or resources in order that it will be used for partisan activities. This to me is the highest crime that has been committed here in the House because we are supposed to be a House of great law. But these laws now are no longer.... [Amante changes thought]. These are the things that we got from the basement. [end recording]

Congressman Amante was showing samples of leaflets bearing Speaker Ramon Mitra's photo with the slogan: Mitra, the promising leader. [passage omitted]

Congressman De Venecia, meanwhile, has this to say:

[Begin De Venecia recording in English] I am very very saddened today because the House of Representatives is my house. It is our common house. It is our hope. Now we are not fit. It is just like the old KGB, like the old Kremlin before the end of the cold war. People have been locked in here now for more than an hour. Even members of the press, radio and television cannot come in. Manila Congressman Jimmy Lopez and I were invited by Congressman Amante to join him this morning to check whether there's an illegal use of the government printing press or the House of Representatives printing press. We saw there are tens of millions of propaganda materials, leaflets in Ilocano, Tagalog, Bisaya, Hiligayon and in English for Speaker Mitra, Vice President Fernan and other candidates. This is punishable. [end recording]

Congressman De Venecia is inside the building but this reporter was able to talk to him through the grill gate. [passage omitted]

Mitra Denies Violation

HK0505091192 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 May 92

[By Rey Sibayan]

[Text] Struggle of Filipino Democrats standard bearer Ramon Mitra, Jr. has formally asked Commission on Elections [Comelec] Chairman Christian Monsod to immediately resolve the case filed against him by the National Union of Christian Democrats. Mitra said spreading reports claiming that he has withdrawn from the presidential race has adversely affected his candidacy:

[Begin Mitra recording in English] I am guilty of no violation to the Comelec. I have faith in the justice of the Comelec. And I feel that I have the election won. This propaganda drive against me has affected my campaign adversely and that is the reason why I want this decided as soon as possible. I feel confident that I've got the election won. [end recording]

Claims Ramos Planted Evidence

HK0205074192 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao
Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 2 May 92

[Statement by Lito Banayo, Struggle of Filipino Democrats, LDP, spokesman, reacting to accusation that LDP candidates led by Mitra were found using the government printing press and resources for their campaign propaganda—live; place not given; italicized passages in English]

[Text] We are not so stupid as to use the small printing plant at the National Assembly. We do not need to do this because we have many supporters and do not see any need to use this printing press. The truth is that *that no home is safe. No private property is going to be safe if and when, and God forbids, Fidel Ramos becomes president of this country.* Because if Ramos supporters can plant

evidence at the National Assembly itself, *this is reminiscent of the martial law* when military men can enter your house and plant subversive documents there, then accuse you of being a subversive. You are then brought to Camp Crame and presented to Fidel Ramos. These were their activities before and they are doing it again. They are not even in power yet. What will happen to our country if these military propagandists, psychological war experts like these people are put into power?

It is clear that these were planted, maybe last night or the other day. Any congressman can enter the building and is allowed to print anything. *Actually, any congressman can request that his privilege speech be printed, duplicated in so many copies.* Any congressman can go to the plant and may have possibly planted the evidence last night or yesterday then orchestrated this raid. If they strongly believe that this thing has been happening here, why do they not go to the Commission on Elections and tell the commissioners about this? It is obvious that all of this was scripted, but nobody will believe this.

Charges Filed Against Ramos's Men

*HK0405103892 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 May 92*

[Text] Members of the House of Representatives have formally filed charges with the Quezon City Regional Trial Court against the three candidates of the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue's Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats [Lakas-NUCD], who led the raid on the Congress Building last Saturday.

House Secretary Camilo Asabio and House Security Officer Serafio Tacad filed charges of grave coercion, incriminatory machination, and assault against Congressmen Edelmiro Amante, Joe De Venecia, and Jaime Lopez.

The criminal charges were filed at the court of Quezon City Prosecutor Candidori Rivera.

Along with the three congressmen, criminal charges were also filed against retired Generals Onestie Isleta and Rene Cruz.

It can be recalled that the three congressmen and two retired generals led the raid on the Batasan printing office last Saturday making public Mitra's use of congressional facilities in printing his campaign materials.

On the other hand, Prosecutor Rivera said that he is unsure whether or not the hearings will be finished before the elections.

Raid Called Part of Oplan Noel

*HK0405123492 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 4 May 92*

[Text] The Concerned Citizens for Justice and Peace, a human rights organization has accused the National Union of Christian Democrats [NUCD] camp headed by presidential candidate Fidel Ramos of starting Oplan Noel or Operation Plan No Elections after it staged a

raid at the National Assembly's printing office. According to the organization based in Central Luzon, the raid staged by Ramos' camp is part of Oplan Noel which is scheduled to take place on 11 May. It is recalled that Ramos' supporters, headed by Lakas [Strength]-NUCD President Edelmiro Amante, including two retired military generals and a number of armed body guards, raided the National Assembly printing press last Saturday to accuse Struggle of Filipino Democrats presidential aspirant Ramon Mitra, Jr. of using the government printing press to print campaign materials. In view of this, Central Luzon residents fear another martial law after the Lakas-NUCD gimmick.

Petition To Disqualify Mitra Filed

*HK0405133592 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 4 May 92*

[By Rey Sibayan]

[Text] Congressmen Jose de Venecia and Edelmiro Amante have formally petitioned the Commission on Elections [Comelec] to disqualify Struggle of Filipino Democrats [LDP] presidential candidate Ramon Mitra Jr. The petition's filing is related to the raid staged by Lakas [Strength]-National Union of Christian Democrats [NUCD] headed by three congressmen and two retired generals last Saturday at the House of Representatives printing office. Based on the Lakas-NUCD petition, it is an Omnibus Election Code violation to use any government facility to support the campaign of any political candidate, similar to the incident involving Mitra and his running mate Fernan. The petition requested the immediate disqualification not only of Speaker Mitra, but the whole LDP party.

Meanwhile, Comelec assigned its investigating team to inventory the materials and other campaign paraphernalia found in the National Assembly printing office. According to Comelec Commissioner Haydee Yorac, its aim is to assure the exact amount of campaign materials as well as how long these materials have been kept at the National Assembly printing press. Here is Comelec commissioner Haydee Yorac's statement:

[Begin Yorac recording in English in progress] ...directing our people to conduct an inventory of the materials found in the premises which were opened to us and also the next room where possibly other materials might have been placed. So we don't have enough stuff before us even to make preliminary judgement. [end recording]

Poll Body Says No Disqualification

*HK0505091092 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 May 92*

[By Rey Sibayan]

[Text] Commission on Election [Comelec] Chairman Christian Monsod clarified that House Speaker Ramon Mitra, Jr. and the other Struggle of Filipino Democrats

candidates cannot be disqualified from the polls just because the charges filed against them are criminal in nature. This is in regard to the disqualification case filed by the Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats.

At the same time, Comelec has assured that the security forces assigned to the Lower House still face criminal liabilities due to the loss of several important pieces of evidence at the Batasan printing office.

[Begin Monsod recording in English] Some packages that were there, whether those constitute evidence or not, are speculative at this point. But our people who were there Saturday, and we have pictures of packages that were unopened which are no longer there. So we are going to have to ask Colonel (Arce) and company. [end recording]

Controversy Called Detrimental

HK0505024792 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English
5 May 92 p 4

[Editorial: "A Controversy Mitra Can Do Without"]

[Text] The discovery of a huge cache of election material in the Batasan's printing office is an unfortunate event that Speaker Ramon Mitra does not need at this crucial stage of the campaign. Unfortunate as well is the clumsy handling of the "raid" by the cohorts of Gen. Fidel Ramos. This event is certain to create fallout that could hurt both Mr Mitra and General Ramos.

But first, let's get some facts clear. The explanation by the Mitra camp that the tons of campaign literature were "planted" does not wash. Those who took part in the break-in at the printing office included representatives, some of whom were detained inside the office by Batasan officials for a few hours. If they were planted, the materials would require a convoy of trucks to deposit them in the office, and there was nothing of that sort seen by the media men.

Secondly, it is not quite correct to say that it was a raid that had the ferocity that was witnessed in the closure of Congress in 1972 and in the arrest of political opponents of the Marcos regime. The so-called "raid" was not carried out by soldiers executing orders of State authorities, although it is true that there were some retired pro-Ramos generals in that party.

What the discovery of the material showed is that Mr Mitra did not miss any opportunity to use House resources to further his electoral chances and his opponents claim this violated the election code. Mr Mitra has handed his opponents an issue to demand his disqualification or withdrawal from the presidential race.

Although the Comelec [Commission on elections] is now inquiring into the incident, it may not be too politic to disqualify Mr Mitra. Such an action would also cause more disruptions and add to the volatility of this closely contested election.

Use or abuse of State resources to promote political interests is a fact of life in Filipino politics, regardless of whether we condemn it as illegal or taking unfair advantage of public office. General Ramos, as well, is being criticized for being backed by State patronage distributed by his patron, President Aquino.

The "raid" reinforces the image of Speaker Mitra as a dyed-in-the-wool traditional politician. On the other hand, the break-in, if we consider the act as such, by the Ramos men has given his opponents the opportunity to accuse him of showing his arbitrary tendencies.

If both Mitra and Ramos have been hurt politically by the raid, one cannot be sure which candidate is going to benefit from possible rethinking and shift of votes away from both candidates. It is not even clear whether Ramos has gained something from the raid.

It would have been more proper if the Ramos men had let authorities, such as Comelec, conduct the inspection of the House premises. But there appears too much impatience on the part of the Ramos camp to grab anything that could embarrass Mr Mitra. This reveals the amateurishness and clumsiness, in terms of tactics, of the Ramos camp.

Last-minute blunders can change voters' minds, and even small shifts can be very precious to the candidates, given the closeness of the race.

Such events as the raid, the barrage of homilies and pastoral letters from the Roman Catholic hierarchy, the extremely partisan reaction of the Iglesia Ni Cristo [Church of Christ] in throwing its disciplined vote for Mr Eduardo Cojuangco are the stuff that, put collectively, can determine who wins on May 11.

Blunders are self-inflicted damage on electoral chances. Those who lose their calm can blame only themselves if they create ammunition against themselves. But remaining calm under fire is also a test of how a president can perform with equanimity under stress from the job.

Fears of Escalating Election Violence Noted

HK0505095492 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The Philippine National Police [PNP] has announced that the incidence of political violence, such as that which has occurred in the past few days, will escalate as the elections near. This violence will mostly be perpetrated by the New People's Army [NPA]. This is according to PNP Director Gerardo Flores.

Flores said that although the incidence of violence is now lower compared to past elections, PNP leaders still fear an increase in violence, thus they are taking preventive measures such as sending thousands of troops to critical areas.

[Begin Flores recording in English] If not for the Communist Party of the Philippines-NPA, these incidents

would not have happened. In other words, if it is already through goons, through political rivalry.... [end recording]

1 May Movement Not To Support Any Candidates

HK0405040492 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 2 May 92 pp 1, 7

[By Martin Marfil and Tony Bergonia]

[Text] The militant Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) [1 May Movement] will not support any presidential candidate in the May 11 elections.

However, some radical leaders of the leftist labor group want Marcos crony Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco to win, expecting him to repeat the abuses of the Marcos regime and revive the conditions that could lead to a revolution.

Daniel L. Edralin, chairman of the Lakas Manggagawa [workers strength] Labor Center, said KMU leaders are pushing for a labor endorsement of Cojuangco's candidacy to create conditions ripe for a revolution.

"They know that under Cojuangco there will be a return of monopoly capitalism. Capitalists close to Cojuangco would thrive and abuses on the workers would be widespread. This is the condition they are waiting for, a condition ripe for armed struggle," Edralin said.

He declined to identify who these leaders are.

Former Labor Secretary Augusto Sanchez, secretary general of the liberal Party-PDP-Laban coalition which is being supported by militant labor, said the plan is not likely to succeed.

"The people have realized that we can achieve change through peaceful means" Sanchez said. "The people are tired of violence. It would not work."

Yesterday, Labor Day, the KMU decided against endorsing any presidential candidate.

Instead, the left-leaning labor federation will actively campaign for and support about 10 senatorial aspirants, according to KMU chairman Crispin Beltran.

They include reelectionist Senator Wigberto Tanada, former Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) president Nemesio Prudente, former Agrarian Reform Secretary Florencio "Butch" Abad and possibly Amado "Gay" Inciong.

He added that the labor center will, in consultation with the Partido ng Bayan and the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan), probably come out with a list of the ten candidates on May 5.

Beltran said that their individual members will have to choose whom to vote for the positions of president and vice-president.

This decision, he added, was firmed up last March 27 in a meeting which also formulated the policy of non-support for any presidential candidate.

The KMU has a membership of about 800,000 with an "influence" of 1.2 million persons, he claimed.

He also said that of all the presidential and vice president candidates, former Senate President Jovito Salonga and his running mate, former Senator Aquilino Pimentel, is "closest to the KMU" in terms of programs.

Salonga, he added, has a program which aims to achieve genuine sovereignty for the country.

He also expressed admiration for Cojuangco's campaign promise of profit-sharing and non-reliance on foreign investments as the only "positive aspects" of his program of government.

"If a capitalist offers profit-sharing, will you turn that down? Can you say it's bad?" he said.

KMU vice president Romy del Castillo, however, lashed out at Cojuangco's program of government, calling it a "proof of his class loyalty."

In his speech before the thousands of workers who gathered at the Liwasang Bonifacio in Manila for the Labor Day celebrations, Del Castillo said Cojuangco's anti-land reform stance will condemn 75 to 90 percent of the country's population to being agricultural workers tied to the coconut industry which will ultimately benefit only the landlord class.

This, he added, was a shortsighted plan which will produce a "weak economy" and was invalidated by the Negros experience which produce widespread poverty on the island province when prices of sugar fell in the world market.

Tanada who was KMU's guest speaker, lambasted presidential candidates Cojuangco, Imelda Marcos, Ramon V. Mitra and Fidel V. Ramos.

Mitra and Ramos, he said, vowed to continue the Aquino policies which had produced four million unemployed workers and nine million who are "underemployed."

The two, he added, also vowed to continue paying for foreign loans, some of which had been tainted by fraud and corruption like the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant (BNPP) deal.

Ramos, however, claimed to have the endorsement of the 500,000-strong Federation of Free Workers (FFW). He made the announcement yesterday in a campaign sortie in Dipolog City.

Resignation of Bases Conversion Head Accepted

HK0505092992 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has formally accepted the irrevocable resignation of Alejandro Melchor, presidential adviser of the Bases Conversion Program and chairman of the Presidential Task Force on the Base Conversion Program, which took effect 30 April 1992. The president expressed sadness over Melchor's resignation.

In his resignation letter, Melchor recommended Public Works Undersecretary Rogelio Singson, the current vice chairman of the Bases Conversion Program, as his replacement until the next administration comes up with its own list of officials for the Bases Conversion Development Authority, one which will comply with the reorganization recommended by the World Bank.

In his letter, Melchor also said that he is saddened that despite all his efforts, there were still some parties who hindered his efforts to expedite the entry of investments into the program.

Joint Naval Exercise With Indonesia Held

Navy Performs 'Dismally'

HK0505024592 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 5 May 92 p 8

[By Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] The Philippine Navy performed dismally in a recent joint exercise with the Indonesian Navy, a ranking military official disclosed to Business World.

The exercise, which took place in the South China Sea, had been scheduled "a long time ago," the source said, but the Philippines had kept putting it off.

When it finally went through, the Philippines could only muster one naval vessel and one aircraft from the 7th Naval District whereas the Indonesians had "several ships and several aircraft." The source declined to cite the specific number and types of vessels used but revealed that the Indonesian force, based at Ujung Pandang (south of Sulawesi), was led by Commodore Bambang Poerwadi. His command's area of responsibility covers waters from Surabaya to Papua New Guinea.

"It was very embarrassing. Our ship could only make 10 knots while the Indonesian vessels had a minimum cruising speed of 17 knots," the military official said. The Indonesians, he said, courted damage to their powerplants by attempting to cruise at a much slower speed.

"In conversations with our Indonesian counterparts and those from other ASEAN countries, they always ask us: What has happened to the Philippines?" the source said. "They can't believe how low we've sunk in almost all respects. They used to look up to us, now we're an object of pity, if not derision."

"This exercise had been termed a confidence-building gesture, but it certainly did nothing for our confidence," he said. A diplomatic source said the purpose of the exercise was to "coordinate... with respect to maritime boundaries."

The source said the exercise had been kept "very low profile... because of demoralization caused by the much-publicized sinking of two of our vessels in recent exercises."

"We need to upgrade our capability. We need a bigger budget not just to buy new systems but so that we can attract and retain skilled maintenance personnel to keep what we have afloat," the military source said.

"However, all we've been hearing from our presidentialables is that they're going to cut the military's budget," he complained.

Fishing Boundaries Discussed

HK0505025392 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 5 May 92 p 12

[By Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] The Indonesian Navy took the opportunity presented by a recent joint exercise to warn Filipino fishermen to stay out of Indonesian waters, a member of the South Cotabato Deep Sea Fishing Association told BUSINESS WORLD over the weekend.

He said the Indonesian Navy unit, led by Commodore Bambang Poerwadi, made stops in several southern ports (the last of which was Sasa Pier in Davao City) and met with members of the various fishing organizations in the area.

The aim of the exercise, diplomatic sources said, was to "coordinate... with respect to maritime boundaries." The Indonesians were apparently serving notice that they would actively police their maritime territory.

Diplomatic

"They were very diplomatic," the fishing operator noted, "they said they would understand if we drifted inadvertently into their waters because of engine trouble or weather. But they said they could not tolerate boats actively fishing so deep within their territory."

"The Indonesian officers complained that Philippine fishing operators use fine mesh nets and fish the whole year round. That does deplete stocks very quickly," he admitted, "because we take the juveniles and the breeding fish."

Dwindling Catch

The Indonesians have realized, the fishing operator said, that the catch in the Celebes Sea has rapidly dwindled because of Philippine fishing activities and "it is practically not worth it to fish there anymore."

"They can no longer afford to turn a blind eye towards such intrusions, they told us," he said.

He pointed out, however, that the Indonesians always referred to the necessity for maintaining close and friendly relations with the Philippines.

Thailand

Minister Meets U.S. Envoy on Los Angeles Riots

BK0405145592 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Pongphon Adireksan invited U.S. Ambassador David Lambertson for an official consultation today. Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry Sakthip Krairoek reported after the meeting that the Thai Government was concerned for the safety of Thais living in the United States as a result of the recent riots and was seeking U.S. help for them. The U.S. ambassador reported to the foreign minister that the situation had already returned to normal and there has been calm. President George Bush meanwhile has declared a disaster area where parties suffering damage can report to U.S. authorities for compensation. The ambassador said those who suffered damage would get full compensation regardless of nationalities.

The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said that the Thai consul general in Los Angeles had reported to the ministry that seven Thai business shops were damaged, but losses were estimated at not more than 10 million baht. There were no Thais injured in Los Angeles or in other cities where riots took place. The Foreign Ministry has instructed the Thai ambassador in Washington D.C. to look after the Thai nationals.

New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Arrives 29 Apr

BK3004055092 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Don McKinnon arrived in Bangkok last night for a 3-day official visit to Thailand. According to the New Zealand Embassy in Bangkok, Mr. McKinnon, who is also minister of external relations and trade and minister of foreign affairs, will meet Prime Minister Suchinda Khraprayun, Foreign Minister Pongphon Adireksan, and Deputy Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Kan Phimanthip.

Apart from trade cooperation, security matters will also be highlighted during talks between the New Zealand deputy prime minister and Thai leaders. New Zealand Ambassador (Philip Gibson) said Thailand is a top priority for New Zealand. That is why New Zealand's deputy prime minister is paying a visit to Thailand.

Government To Pursue ASEAN Free Trade Plan

BK0105004592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 May 92 pp A1, A2

[Text] The Suchinda government had decided to adopt the previous government's policy to implement the

ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) but will try to minimize its effects on domestic industries, according to the final draft of its policy statement to be announced on May 6.

In this draft, already scrutinized and revised by the coalition partners, the administration pledges to restructure the tariff system for the "maximum interest" of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and of AFTA, the regional trading bloc proposed by Thailand and agreed to by the heads of the ASEAN nations earlier this year in Singapore.

The need for the country to adjust its economy to new international and regional realities was accentuated in the first draft drawn up in part by Prime Minister Gen Suchinda Khraprayun's advisory team led by Dr Wiraphong Ramangkun.

While the economic think-tank contributed to the draft in terms of economic policy, a second team helping to formulate the government's policies—drawn from the National Economic and Social Development Board and headed by PM's [Prime Minister's] Secretary-General Khosit Panpimrat—reportedly made significant contributions on agriculture development and rural poverty, which is a clear distinction from the Anan government's policies.

The input of Cabinet members from the five government parties seems to have watered down the theme of rapid adjustment of the economy to new trade rules within the framework of GATT and AFTA. The changes to the draft policy statement have raised questions on the pace of the progress towards the goals set for AFTA, which is to be implemented within 15 years.

"I guess the watering down of the advisers' draft is the result of political economy," commented a source who asked not to be identified.

However, in other areas of overall economic policy, the Anan government legacy is conspicuously retained: the continuation of the liberal economic policy, retention of fiscal discipline, development of new financial and capital markets to increase the country's and enhancing the private sector's competitiveness in the international trade system. [sentence as published]

The Suchinda government, however, plans to enrich the Anan Cabinet's policy by pledging to support Thailand's overseas investment, an emerging trend resulting from increased costs of production at home.

But the new government has predictably dropped its predecessor's policy of setting up a national agricultural council.

Instead, the Suchinda government will put greater emphasis on long-term measures to develop what it described in the policy statement as a "strategic economic sector."

They include the establishment of a network of local crop markets to increase farmers' leverage with middlemen, greater emphasis on providing long-term credits

to farmers, injecting more capital into the Land Fund to pave the way for its development into a land bank, changes in the production mode from heavy dependence on chemical fertilizers and pesticides to natural ways to enrich the soil and eradicate pests and promotion of a variety of crops on a particular plot of farmland.

The policy statement also includes a rural development strategy which is, however, ambiguous. The strategy includes the following points:

- Greater emphasis on establishing infrastructure, including road, electricity, water sources and basic health services, in rural areas.
- Increased powers for local governments in local tax collection and increased allocations of the government's budget to local areas.

Developing the ability of tambon [subdistrict] councils so they will gain legal status when they are ready for it.

- Giving provinces more powers in personal and budgetary management. Provincial administrations will be given bigger budgets so they can initiate provincial development projects suited to the needs of local people.
- Stepping up the issue of land title deeds to land occupants who deserve the documents of ownership.
- Improving the procedures on land reforms to ensure "social justice." In restructuring the regulations and procedures, relocation of existing residents would be avoided.

On the conservation of natural resources and environmental policy, the draft policy statement calls for greater roles for and participation by local people, as well as the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The government also pledges to enforce legal measures against violators of the law.

The draft policy statement also calls for the establishment of an extensive water storage network throughout the country, while taking into account the ecology and preservation of forest.

It would also cooperate with neighbouring countries in developing water sources in the interest of countries in the region.

Moreover, the government would promote the role of the private sector in procuring water sources for industries.

The government would also impose "appropriate charges" on users of water for non-agricultural purposes.

On forest conservation in particular, the government will seek to quickly improve efficiency in maintaining forest reserves and declaring new national parks and wildlife conservation areas.

Farmers will be encouraged to grow trees to increase forest, particularly in areas close to natural water sources.

However, the rewritten draft also says the government would promote the role of the private sector in launching reforestation projects.

The announcement of the government's policies on May 6 will clash with the anti-Suchinda rally called by former MP Chalot Worachit, who has vowed to continue his fast despite being hospitalized yesterday when he went into shock.

Burma Duplicity, Foreign Pressure Viewed

BK0205034692 Bangkok THE NATION in English
2 May 92 p A8

[Editorial: "No Reason To Trust the Men in Rangoon"]

[Text] It is with a mixture of cynicism and slight hope that we watch events unfolding in Burma. The unrelieved grimness of news coming out of that country for the past two years makes even the minor concessions and promises made recently by the Rangoon junta seem a reason to hope that things are finally turning out for the better. But what should not be forgotten is that the leaders of Burma's State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) have proved time and again their duplicity and inability to keep their word.

It seems likely that the junta is only playing a more sophisticated game. The realization may have crept in among Burma's top brass that SLORC must take steps to ease international pressure against it if it is to survive. The danger here is that the international community, and ASEAN in particular, will find it convenient to treat cosmetic changes as real reform. This would simply give the junta carte blanche to continue to do as it pleases inside the country and so condemn the Burmese people to further suffer and die. In a surprising departure from SLORC's usually coarse tactics, the concessions announced over the last week, since the replacement of junta head Gen Saw Maung by Gen Than Shwe last Thursday, seem subtly designed to provide maximum effect internationally at minimum risk. Thirty-eight political prisoners have been released since Sunday, including former premier U Nu. Many of them, however, are elderly dissidents who pose little threat to the regime. Indeed, SLORC announced that no one would be released who posed a threat to "national security".

This group presumably would include opposition leader and Nobel Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest since July 1989. SLORC did announce that she would be able to receive a visit from her husband and children. Some observers felt that the junta might be hoping that her family would persuade her to leave Burma. Almost no one expected the charismatic opposition leader to be unconditionally released, however, as such a move would spell the end of SLORC rule as certainly as Nelson Mandela's release brought an end to apartheid in South Africa.

Rangoon also announced that it would open talks with opposition parties and call a national convention later

this year to put together a constitution. Although it had not been said so directly before, this was not really anything new—SLORC had said as much in the past and then reneged on its promises by attaching impossible conditions on the opposition. Anti-government forces note that even if Rangoon were to abide by its promises and stop its repression, a SLORC-backed convention could take years to come up with a new constitution.

One move that did surprise almost everyone, however, came on Tuesday, when Rangoon announced that it was suspending its military offensive against the Karen army based along the Thai border, in the interest of "national unity and good will". Still, it is yet unclear whether this is just a fanciful way of Rangoon wrapping up its fighting before the start of the rainy season or something more.

Karen leaders were not ready to give any credit to Rangoon. They pointed out that they had been fighting the central government for over 40 years, and had been deceived before. They also noted that the cessation of hostilities did not cover other anti-Rangoon ethnic groups such as the Kachin, Karenni and Mon. The outside world is much less familiar with these groups than they are with the Karen, so the move indicates again that SLORC may be choosing concessions that will have the greatest international impact.

But the concession that may have the most dangerous implications involves problems on Burma's western border. Rangoon has reportedly agreed to take back most of the 225,000 Muslim refugees, known as Rohingyas, who have fled into Bangladesh over the past few months because of terrible persecution in Burma's western Arakan state. Although this is a remarkable departure from Rangoon's policy of just a few weeks ago, when it was claiming that the Rohingyas were illegal immigrants who had no place in Burma, there is no indication that the situation in Arakan has changed. The Rohingyas are understandably nervous, and are demanding a role for the UN in their repatriation. They certainly deserve it—with no international monitoring, they may be stepping into a killing field by returning home.

Unfortunately, there seems to be forces in the region that would love to see the Rohingya situation solved no matter what the result. For it was this issue more than anything that was beginning to push a reluctant ASEAN, spearheaded by Malaysia and Indonesia away from its traditional policy of "constructive engagement" towards Burma. But with the Rohingyas back home and forgotten about, ASEAN may have less reason than ever to change this morally bankrupt position.

Such convenient amnesia on the part of the countries of the region would be tragic.

Without pressure from ASEAN and China, there will almost certainly be no change within Burma. On the other hand, the recent concessions may indicate that there are elements pushing for reform within military

circles in Rangoon, who need now more than ever a strong signal by Asian countries that their tolerance with SLORC has its limits.

ASEAN needs to find its collective spine and immediately demand the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and all other political prisoners. And if this does not work, the only option will be for the UN to move towards an arms embargo and strict economic sanctions against Rangoon. There is no other way. The long suffering people of Burma deserve no less.

Anti-Suchinda Rally Held; Leader Begins Fast

*BK0505012392 Bangkok THE NATION in English
5 May 92 p A1, A2*

[Text] Phalang Tham Party leader Chamlong Simuang began fasting yesterday and vowed to continue until either he dies or Prime Minister Gen Suchinda Khrapayun resigns, a demand echoed at a huge political rally at Sanam Luang in the evening.

Chamlong's surprise announcement, an unprecedented political gamble, sharply boosted the pro-democracy movement's campaign for Gen Suchinda's resignation and could have dramatic repercussions in the next few days.

It came shortly before at least 80,000 people gathered at Sanam Luang in the biggest political rally since the Suchinda-led coup toppled the Chatchai government last year.

"You must not die. You must not die," the emotional crowds shouted after Chamlong read out what he called "My last letter" at the rally.

"I will fast until I die or Gen Suchinda resigns," said the popular ex-city governor, whose party swept Bangkok in the March general election.

Earlier, Chamlong, dressed in black, went to Parliament with an aide at about 5 pm and stunned reporters by revealing that he was giving up all parliamentary activities to go on a hunger strike.

"I'm tired of lacklustre means of struggle. There is no use speaking in Parliament because that won't work", Chamlong said.

"This is no joke. I'm putting my life on the line."

Chamlong said he would take nothing but water and would reject all medical treatment.

"One won't survive for more than seven days with this method of fasting," he said.

Chamlong, who will stay in front of Parliament during his protest, said even his wife had not been told of his decision.

"I was afraid she would try to stop me. However, this is my life. It is I who feel the pain," he said.

Chamlong, a strict Buddhist and vegetarian who eats only one meal a day, wrote what he called "My last letter to the people" and sent copies to news offices.

Chamlong will not attend tomorrow's parliamentary debate on the Suchinda government's policies, but observers predicted his call for the people to support a planned rally on the same day might have a greater impact than what the Opposition says in the Assembly Hall.

"My dear people, if the rally on May 6 turns out to be a 'little-water-can-never-fight-fire' event, let me say goodbye to all of you," Chamlong said in his letter.

He pledged not to back down on his protest, and in his letter referred directly to Suchinda's failure to keep his post-coup promise not to take the premiership.

"I won't accept any political gain from this protest. I won't become either prime minister or a Cabinet minister if Gen Suchinda steps down. I won't break this pledge," he said.

The Police Department recently threatened to seize hunger protester Chalot Worachit, who started fasting on the day Suchinda was appointed prime minister, and send him to hospital. Chalot collapsed last Friday after a three-week protest and is being treated at the Vajira Hospital.

Asked by reporters if he thought the hunger protest was a "costly" risk, Chamlong replied promptly: "No. I foresee damage which will be much more costly (if Suchinda remains prime minister)."

His decision followed Suchinda's indifference to Phalang Tham's promise to sacrifice one of its House of Representatives in Bangkok to pave the way for a by-election to give the prime minister the chance to "legitimize" his position.

There was no immediate reaction from Suchinda, who has played down previous campaigns against his rise to the premiership, including a rally on April 20 at the Royal Plaza which between 50,000 and 70,000 people attended.

PM's Office Minister Watthana Atsawahem, the only senior government official to comment last night on Chamlong's protest, said he would not have fasted if he were the Phalang Tham Party leader.

"Only eating one meal a day makes him popular enough," Watthana said.

Chamlong's allies leading the Sanam Luang rally described the hunger protest as a sacrifice and called on the people to join forces in fighting the military's influence in politics.

"He is fighting for democracy," said New Aspiration leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut. "I don't think he is trying to stir up unrest."

The opposition leaders repeated Chamlong's call for a major rally in front of the Parliament compound tomorrow.

Solidarity Party leader Bunchu Rotchanasathian declared: "Gen Suchinda's claim that opposition parties

are becoming exhausted is not true. We are getting stronger and stronger. Look at what happened today."

Sanam Luang was packed yesterday evening, with estimates of the crowd varying from 80,000 to about 100,000.

The police, who said 25,000 people joined the April 20 rally, estimated yesterday's crowd at 30,000.

Chawalit told the rally: "It's I who let a ghost out of its coffin, so it's I who will have to bust it."

Chawalit resigned from the armed forces in 1990 to enter parliamentary politics, promoting Suchinda to the powerful position of army commander in chief.

"Fighting a dictator is a risky business. But not fighting is more risky," he said.

Student Federation of Thailand leader Prinya Thewanarumitkun shouted to the responsive audience: "It's time for us to combine our forces in order to get back our democracy."

Like the April 20 rally, yesterday's demonstration focused on Suchinda's negative attitude toward parliamentary politics and his fluctuating political stand.

Having weathered criticism for failing to keep his pledge never to take the premiership, Suchinda included in his Cabinet three politicians accused of being corrupt by the anti-graft committee set up after the coup which he led.

"Get him out! Get him out!" the Sanam Luang crowd shouted.

Leading opposition figures dismissed Suchinda's claim that the five coalition parties' support for his appointment meant he had the people's mandate.

"Some people are accusing us of not playing by the rules. Of course, we can't accept criminal rules," said New Aspiration Party deputy leader Wira Musigaphong, referring to the argument that it is not constitutionally illegal to name a non-elected person as prime minister.

Wira sarcastically asked the audience to donate money to buy pha thung (Thai-style rope for women) "for a man who dares not compete in an election".

Letter Notes Beginning of Fast

BK0505034292 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
5 May 92 p 2

[Letter by Major General Chamlong Simuang, Phalang Tham party leader, addressed to "dear people who have goodwill towards the country," dated 4 May]

[Text] We know that many people have joined the campaigns against a non-elected person's rise to the premiership. They disagree with his declared statement that he "had to go back on his words for the sake of the country". The statement has brought about great moral

damage. We do not harbor any personal grudge against Gen Suchinda Khraprayun in moving against his appointment as prime minister. It is unnecessary to wait and see the government's performance as we do not question his ability to administer the country.

The people now can see the loss the country will suffer by attempts to maintain the coup makers' power for at least another 10 years. The administration is becoming more dictatorial by the day... and this will cost the country thousands of millions more in economic loss.

Gen Suchinda and his friends are lost and we have tried to point the way to them. We appeal to Gen Suchinda to resign and contest in a constituency where any MP is more than willing to quit to pave the way for him to be returned to office. But he doesn't want to right the wrong he has committed.

It is true that attempts to solve political wrongs should be left to MPs. But opposition MPs cannot speak effectively against the government in Parliament because the president of parliament and his deputies are government people. The administration commands 195 MPs and 270 senators support it... so we have to move outside Parliament.

I would like to invite those of you who have concern for the country to sacrifice one day to attend a peaceful rally on May 6 from 8 am to ask Suchinda to quit. We will gather in front of Parliament to which Suchinda will go.

I moved against Suchinda as a member of a political party but it failed. Now, I would like to oppose him on my own, as an ordinary person with no affiliation to political parties.

I have considered it thoroughly and decided to put my life on the line. I will begin fasting this evening. I will have nothing except water. I will refuse glucose, saline solution, medical check-ups, or any medical treatment. Normally people will live on water for no more than seven days. I will fast until Suchinda resigns or I die.

I do not want power in exchange for my hunger protest. I will refuse to accept the post of prime minister or any Cabinet portfolio if this protest leads to any chance for the post. I will not go back on my words.

My dear people, if the rally on May 6 turns out to be a little-water-can-never-fight-fire event, let me say goodbye to all of you.

I am proud to have been born a Thai... and to have met many good people. If I have to leave the world in a few days, I'll not be sorry. Goodbye.

Suchinda To Stay in Office

*BK0505012692 Bangkok THE NATION in English
5 May 92 p A1*

[Text] The mounting pressure from opposition and pro-democracy groups may have made things difficult for Prime Minister Gen Suchinda Khraprayun but it definitely has not weakened his resolve to remain in power.

The ex-army chief declared yesterday that he had no intention of quitting the premiership and that he believed his political opponents "are on the verge of exhausting themselves."

Suchinda claimed that if he was to resign it would lead to an even more chaotic political situation.

Speaking to reporters at Government House, Suchinda said the opposition parties' campaign to oust him had not hurt him.

"The pressure from outside Parliament has no impact on me. The opposition parties can do whatever they want to," he said.

Suchinda, who has been under daily attack for taking the premiership though he is not an MP, blamed his opponents for the current political confusion and the plunge in the stock market.

Dismissing the calls for him to quit, Suchinda said he would only respond to action from inside Parliament.

"There would be more chaos if I quit (now)," he said, adding that he would resign only if his government was defeated by parliamentary means.

When asked whether he considered himself an upholder of democracy, Suchinda said: "I think so."

The prime minister said he was convinced that the opposition to him would die down soon. "They are on the verge of exhausting themselves. And there is nothing from outside Parliament that can pressure me," he said.

Suchinda again dismissed the hunger strike by political activist Chalot Worachat, who has been hospitalized after collapsing last week. "It's up to him. If he has the strength to go on, let him do it," Suchinda said when asked to comment on the ex-MPs announcement that he would leave the hospital to continue his fast to force Suchinda to quit.

The prime minister also gave little weight to a statement by a group of university lecturers who characterized his premiership as illegitimate because he did not stand in an election.

While trying to allay fears that soldiers might march out of the barracks to show their support, Suchinda said he did not need them. "I can stand on my own. I have the support of the people."

Suchinda has been claiming that even though he was not an MP he had the mandate for the premiership because he was supported by elected politicians.

He said yesterday that he was ready to face any kind of criticism from his opponents. "I made up my mind on the day I decided to take the premiership that I had to be very tolerant," he said.

Suchinda said he hoped the current political stand-off would be resolved peacefully and denied there were

attempts to bring military-organized mobs out onto the streets to face the anti-Suchinda demonstrators.

Paper Berates Suchinda

*BK0505013292 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
5 May 92 p 4*

[Editorial: "Don't Abuse the Power of the Press"]

[Text] The Government's policy statement, like many of its predecessors, tends to be strong on the desirability of obtaining lofty and worthy goals but somewhat vague on the means to be employed in achieving them. As always, the press took note of the expected commitment to guarantee its freedom, but any enthusiasm this might have produced evaporated on Saturday. That was when Prime Minister Suchinda Khraprayun urged the press to impose a degree of self-censorship "to ensure law and order and help the country's economy."

His plea ignored the basic fact that newspapers report the news, they don't make it. To blame the messenger for bad tidings is both illogical and unfair. If the press fails to report crime, criticism of the government, pitfalls facing the economy and corruption in high places that doesn't make all these things magically disappear. Press freedom is a double-edged sword. It does not confer a licence to distort, defame or manipulate the truth. Instead, it confers a high level of responsibility. A newspaper that lies to its readers, either by acts of commission or omission, will gradually lose its credibility and eventually go out of business, bankrupt and unmourned.

The prime minister must not lose sight of the fact that a newspaper's purpose is to inform its readers of facts and opinions. Some of the opinions, and even some of the facts, may not be to the liking of everyone. Some indeed may be critical of the government. This does not make them irrelevant or harmful to the nation or its people. Since governments are made up of people, many with vested interests, it is only natural that they will sometimes try to suppress opinions with which they do not agree. But this inclination must be overcome and constructive criticism accepted and, where appropriate, acted upon. This is the nature of democracy. In fact it is what democracy is all about.

In the minds of some politicians, press freedom occasionally becomes confused with a wider licence. Pornography is harmful, most especially to the young and has nothing to do with press freedom, which is the basic right to report the views and actions of people disagreeing in an orderly and lawful way with the views of our political leaders.

The press does not make revolutions, arm revolutionaries, strip forests, steal tax money through corrupt schemes, build dams, irrigate farmland, or jail notorious criminals. It reports facts and disseminates information, good and bad alike. To prevent it from carrying out that job is to shoot the messenger, nothing more and nothing less.

The degree of press freedom in any country is always a good measure of the democratic freedom that its citizens enjoy. This is why so many free-market governments accept and respect a free press as one of the key pillars of democracy. At the same time, the degree of state interference and control of the press measures the degree of totalitarian rule its government exercises.

For all its faults, the press—which is not above the law—provides all governments with crucial checks and balances to its wielding state power, whether on the economic, social or political front. Without such checks, governments will become dangerously arrogant and fail to provide themselves with the ability to tolerate opposing opinions and criticism.

Without such a balance, how can responsible governments safeguard the democratic process of a country? What prevents the excessive favoring of one vested group over another?

Critics of the free press dislike it the most when it takes two sides of the story, when it allows the other side to be heard. But it is not the job of the press to make any government appear more attractive than it is. (That is the job of their public relations department which should never be mistaken as anything but.)

By tampering with the work of the press, a government will, intentionally or otherwise, put the media in such an irresponsible position that it will not only endanger the professional standards of journalists but worse, place itself in an extremely precarious position.

That unsavoury position is one which throws into question its ability to govern, whether it can rule fairly and justly and asks whether it has made a mockery of the trust a nation has bestowed upon it.

Students, Activists Protest Rallies

*BK0505093492 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 4 May 92*

[Text] A group of about 400 activists and students from Ramkhamhaeng University gathered at the university campus today to appeal to parties and groups of people to pursue a proper course of struggle under the democratic system. The group, comprising university students, members of the Student Group of Nonthaburi, the Public Opinion Volunteers Group, the Law and Political Science Graduates Coordinating Center, and minibus operators, want political struggle to be carried out through proper parliamentary channels.

The group also pointed out that the ongoing confusion is the work of certain people who have lost their interests. They appealed to all concerned parties and groups to stop instigating mobs by using the student uprising of 14 October 1973 as motivation for their political struggle because that would be a distortion of the true spirit of the fallen heroes just to serve their desire to come to power.

Opposition Plans No-Confidence Motion

*BK0105012592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
30 Apr pp 1, 3*

[Text] The opposition parties are to file a no-confidence motion against the entire Cabinet, with the focus on Prime Minister Suchinda Khrapayun's inclusion of "unusually wealthy" politicians in his government.

The censure motion, to be filed after the policy statement is delivered on May 6, is one of four measures the opposition is planning against the administration.

The other three measures are an urgent motion to grill the Government about violence against reporters, efforts to save hunger striker Chalot Worachit from serious illness or death and to continue dressing in black while the government retains an "outsider" as prime minister.

The leaders of the opposition New Aspiration (NAP), Phalang Tham and Solidarity parties met at Parliament House yesterday, but there were no representatives of the Democrat Party.

NAP secretary-general Phisan Munlasatsathon said afterwards the measures represented a united opposition protest. The Democrats did not attend the meeting because they were visiting their electorates and could not return in time, he added.

Solidarity secretary-general Uthai Phimchaichon said it was not necessary allow the government time to administer the country before lodging the no-confidence motion as the "unusually rich" politicians had been included in the Cabinet despite not having been cleared of corruption charges.

Mr Uthai said the politicians would have been suspended from duty had they been civil servants, and the Constitution specified that corrupt behaviour was sufficient grounds for barring them from administrative office.

Gen Suchinda will have to take responsibility for naming them to the Cabinet, he said.

"Allowing them even one day in office is very dangerous. They may sign something which could damage the country later," he said.

Mr Uthai said the opposition parties would add the policy statement to its censure motion if it proved unacceptable.

After the five-hour meeting by the four parties yesterday, NAP spokesman Chaturon Chaisaeng said the opposition would demand live non-stop broadcasts on TV and radio for the censure debate against the Government.

Prime Minister's Office Minister Piyanat Watcharaphon yesterday described the no-confidence motion as a "joke" because the Government had not yet begun work.

He said the Opposition was within its constitutional right to censure the Government, but such action should also be appropriate.

He said his Social Action Party stood firmly united with the coalition parties in defending the Government against attack.

Phalang Tham secretary-general Col Chinnawut Sunthonsima said the recent violence against reporters was intended to deter criticism of the Suchinda Government, but it caused great damage to the national image as each incident was reported worldwide.

The state media is being manipulated to report only favorable news, he said, which was a further suppression of freedom of the press and the people's right to know.

An urgent motion on this issue will be drafted and submitted to Parliament soon.

NAP deputy leader Amnuai Yotsuk said Mr Chalot had refused food for 21 days now and the opposition did not want him to die.

The only way to prevent this was to accept the illegitimacy of appointing an "outsider" as prime minister.

Mr Amnuai said Mr Chalot had agreed to go to hospital for treatment if 100,000 people turn up at the Student Federation of Thailand rally at the Royal Plaza on May 4 and at his own rally on May 6 where he will call for a referendum on whether an unelected prime minister is acceptable.

An opposition rally planned for Nakhon Si Thammarat will be held after the policy statement is announced, he said.

Mr Uthai said the opposition parties yesterday also discussed Government spokesman Wisanu Khrungam's assertion that he did not have to resign from the civil service or his Senate position in order to take up the political post. It was decided the matter remained unclear as Dr Wisanu may not have been appointed, merely "borrowed" from another agency.

NAP's Chaturon will look into the matter.

Democrat spokesman Churin Laksanawisit said he had missed the meeting because of some confusion, not because there was any problem among the opposition parties.

He said his party would discuss the findings of yesterday's meeting before agreeing to support them.

Vietnam**Nguyen Van Linh Leaves for PRC Visit**

*BK0305154892 Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT
3 May 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—Advisor to the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Central Committee Nguyen Van Linh left here today for a visit to China as guest of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

He was seen off by Party General Secretary Do Muoi, Politburo members of the Party Central Committee Le Duc Anh and Duy Tung, and other senior party officials.

UK, NGO Aid to Son La Province Reported

*BK0405154792 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT
4 May 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 4—British Government and NGOs [Nongovernmental Organizations] have been involved in micro development projects in Son La Province in northwest Vietnam which was badly damaged in a big flood in 1991.

The British aid programme for Son La is funded by the Action Aid and by the British Government and will amount to some USD 3 million over the current five year action programme.

In addition, the British Ambassador to Vietnam, Peter K. Williams, decided to provide 15 tons of rice to local farmers who have been taking part in the dam construction, purchase medical equipment and schooling facilities worth more than VND [Vietnamese dong] 50 million for the clinic and boarding school and grant a number of scholarships for the best pupils of boarding school for children of ethnic minorities in the province.

The UK Save the Children Fund has also renewed its continued commitments in supporting development projects in Vietnam. IC, a major British chemical company, has announced its contributions worth more than USD 500,000 to the fund over the next three years in Vietnam. The donation is expected to be used to improve primary healthcare and establish pilot farming projects for food and income generation in the northern central Vietnam province of Nghe An which has been subjected to frequent natural disaster from tropical storms and typhoons.

Other British NGOs have also rendered financial assistance to development programmes in different localities across the country and engaged in resettlement programmes for Vietnamese repatriates from Hong Kong.

Cooperation, Friendship With Netherlands Hailed

*BK0405112392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 26 Apr 92*

[Article by Xuan Hieu published in 25 April NHAN DAN, introducing the Netherlands and its cooperation with Vietnam]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted on historical and geographical information on, and economic development in, the Netherlands] The relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the Netherlands have been increasingly strengthened since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries on 9 August 1973.

In 1990, Vietnam-Netherlands bilateral trade reached \$18 million or an increase of 16 percent as compared to 1989. At present two major Dutch companies namely

the Shell and the (UNISEN) Beer Corporations are operating effectively in Vietnam.

As of 31 December 1991, The Netherlands had invested \$227 million in Vietnam. It is one of the five leading countries that have engaged in major investment projects in Vietnam. Moreover, the Dutch Government has expressed its wish to accelerate the relations of friendship and cooperation with our country.

A Dutch Government economic and trade delegation led by its Minister of Commerce, accompanied by 28 businessmen, visited Vietnam during 23-28 April. The delegation held talks with Vietnamese officials of the ministries concerned and other economic sectors. They discussed measures and prospects for expanding bilateral relations. This visit to Vietnam by the Dutch economic delegation will help open up a new stage in the relations between the two countries in conformity with Vietnam's economic reform and open-door policies.

Indonesian National Assembly Delegation Arrives

*BK0304160792 Hanoi VNA in English 1445 GMT
3 May 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—A delegation of the Indonesian National Assembly led by Mahamad Kharis Suhud, chairman of the People's Consultative Assembly and speaker of the House of Representatives, arrived here this afternoon for an official visit as guest of the chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly.

The delegation was welcomed at the governmental guest's house by Chairman of the National Assembly Le Quang Dao, Secretary General of the State Council Nguyen Viet Dung, Vice Chairman of the National Assembly Phung Van Tuu, Deputy Head of the Council of Nationalities of the National Assembly Nong Duc Manh, Head of the National Assembly's Commission for External Relations Ms. Nguyen Thi Binh, and other high-ranking Vietnamese officials.

Indonesian ambassador to Vietnam Juana W. was present at the welcome ceremony.

In the evening, National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao gave a banquet in honour of Mr. Mohamad Kharis Suhud and his party. Later the Indonesian guests attended an art performance.

Joint Parliamentary Talks Held

*BK0405155192 Hanoi VNA in English 1507 GMT
4 May 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 4—Vietnamese and Indonesian parliamentary delegations held talks here this morning to inform each other of the latest developments in their respective countries and discussed international and regional matters of common concern.

The two sides also expressed their wish for further cooperation between the two National Assemblies for stability, cooperation and development in the region and the rest of the world.

The Vietnamese delegation was led by Chairman Le Quang Dao, and the Indonesian delegation, by Chairman of the People's Consultative Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives Mohamad Kharis Suhud.

Vo Van Kiet Receives Outgoing Polish Envoy

BK0405155992 Hanoi VNA in English 1443 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 4—The Vietnamese Government will try to promote its relations with Poland on the basis of equality, mutual benefits and respect for each other's sovereignty, to meet the two peoples' aspiration, says Premier Vo Van Kiet while receiving outgoing Polish Ambassador Stanislaw Gebala here today.

The Vietnamese leader thanked the Polish Government and people for their assistance to Vietnam, and said he was very pleased to note that Vietnam and Poland have always maintained and developed their traditional friendship and cooperation.

Singapore's Lee Views Market Reforms, Trade

BK0305151292 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 25 Apr 92

[Interview with visiting Singapore Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew by Vietnam Television correspondent in Hanoi on 25 April—correspondent's questions, Lee Kuan Yew's answers recorded in English, fading into Vietnamese translation]

[Text] [Correspondent] Your Excellency, would you please tell us about your initial impressions of your visit to Vietnam?

[Lee Kuan Yew] I realize that there are some differences from my assessment before the visit. However, there are still many things Vietnam must do in the process of shifting from a subsidy economy to a market economy. This means that you must change the people's thinking and actions because the market economy is a system that requires everyone to compete while extending cooperation to one another. In other words, the market economic system requires recognition that a man is working for himself while striving to cooperate with others. As a result, people's concepts must be changed. However, this is not easy and time is needed to change this concept.

[Correspondent] What is the prospect of Vietnam-Singapore cooperation?

[Lee Kuan Yew] I think the relations between Vietnam and Singapore are better and closer. We will have more trade with each other. Many Singapore businessmen have visited Vietnam to make feasibility studies on

investment in the hotel, machine assembly, and department store business. I have seen the increase in such visits and we in Singapore are ready to welcome Vietnamese people who want to visit Singapore to study our business activities such as the management of seaports, airports, and civil aviation. I think Singapore has attained the international standard in these fields, thus being able to compete with all countries in the world.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Your Excellency.

Vo Chi Cong Congratulates Afghan Interim Leader

BK0305160892 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—President of the State Council Vo Chi Cong today sent a message of congratulations to Mr. Sebghatollah Mojaddedi on his appointment as president of the provisional council of Afghanistan.

The message says it is Vietnamese people's hope that the Afghanistan people would gain peace and stability in order to quickly overcome the consequences of the war and build a prosperous country.

Vietnam wishes to maintain and develop its friendship and cooperation with Afghanistan in the interests of the two peoples and for peace in Asia, the message adds.

Leaders Congratulate New Burmese Prime Minister

BK0405152792 Hanoi VNA in English 1509 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 4—President of the State Council Vo Chi Cong and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet today sent congratulatory messages to General Than Shwe on his appointment as president of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Burma).

In their messages, the Vietnamese leaders expressed their wishes for further consolidation and development of the friendly relations between the two countries for their own interests and for peace and stability in the region.

Anniversary of Karl Marx's Birth Commemorated

BK0505073092 Hanoi VNA in English 0607 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 5—Commemorating the 174th birth anniversary of Karl Marx (May 5, 1818-1992), NHAN DAN today carries an article entitled "Marxism Remains Just Forever". The paper says: "The disintegration of a major part of the socialist system has pushed the Marxist movement into a serious crisis.

A new anti-Marxist trend is spreading even here, drawing even those who once considered themselves to be outstanding Marxists. Some have been declaimed Marxism dead. In the face of such claims, people of conscience still mainly reaffirm the immortality of the

Marxist doctrine, because it is the quintessence of mankind's wisdom and a major discovery which no other social doctrine has so far surpassed".

The paper continues: "Grasping the quintessence of Marxism is grasping the truth by grasping the fundamental contents of Marxist theory, we correctly solved the problems of our national liberation cause. As regards problems in the national construction and the transitional period to socialism, we have blazed a new trail, yet there remain problems ahead. The state of theoretical backwardness must be improved. More than ever before, we must have a correct conception of Marxism and creatively develop it in the light of the new situation in our country and in the world. Renewing theoretical thinking is a decisive condition for a new development of our theoretical level. Theory can serve as a guideline only when it is a vanguard theory which can correctly solve the problems posed by life.

Nguyen Manh Cam Interview on New Foreign Policy

BK0405114792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 May 92

[Report on an interview with Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam by unidentified correspondent published in the 30 April issue of SAIGON GIAI PHONG; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Comrade foreign minister, do you think that the complicated world developments in the recent past have affected the diplomatic activities of our party and state?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] We are witnessing very fast-breaking and complicated changes in the international situation. The crumbling of the Soviet Union and many socialist countries in Eastern Europe, as well as the deep-rooted changes in the world economy resulting from scientific and technological breakthroughs have had a profound, far-reaching impact on the overall world situation and international relations, giving rise to many new factors completely different from the world socioeconomic life of days gone by. Those changes in the international and regional situations have posed new problems for our country, particularly on the diplomatic front. It is important for us to promptly understand those problems and formulate a policy commensurate with the common trends of development worldwide, to create the most favorable conditions for the cause of renovation and the task of building and defending the fatherland.

The foreign policy of independence, sovereignty, and diversified activities presented by the seventh party congress is the fruit of our party's sharp political thinking, vigilance, and farsightedness in the face of those great, far-reaching changes in the international situation.

[Unidentified correspondent] Following the seventh party congress, Vietnam has followed a policy of befriending all nations in the world, and of struggling for peace, independence, and development. What are the results and prospects brought about by that foreign policy?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] The seventh party congress' correct foreign policy has been put forth in a very timely manner, and has also been positively implemented. Consequently, it has brought about important results. Our urgent, uninterrupted activities aimed at promoting friendship and all-round cooperation with all nations regardless of their political and social systems, and on the basis of respect for each other's independence and sovereignty as well as of noninterference in each other's internal affairs, have brought about effective results. Thanks to our active participation in the peaceful settlement of the Cambodian issue, and in the signing of the Paris agreement on Cambodia, we have removed a major obstacle to our relations with many countries. In implementing the seventh party congress' foreign policy, we have normalized our relations with China and have led Sino-Vietnamese ties to a new stage of development, consolidating the traditional friendship, and gradually restoring and expanding the friendly relations and cooperation between the two nations.

We have improved our relations with the ASEAN member countries and have shifted our relations with countries in the region from conflict lasting for more than a decade to a new stage of development during which cooperation would benefit development and positively contribute to bringing about peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia. At the same time, we have positively expanded our relations with Western and Northern European nations as well as with industrialized countries like Australia, Canada, and Japan. All those countries have decided to resume development aid, increase investment, and broaden economic and trade ties with Vietnam. Against that background, the Vietnamese-U.S. relations have also been improved to a certain degree.

We have also persisted in our efforts to maintain and broaden our long-standing relations with friendly countries far and near, and have contributed our fair share to the common struggle for peace, national independence, and social progress.

It can be said that the positive diplomatic activities since the seventh party congress have contributed to further foiling the dark scheme aimed at encircling and isolating our country. At the same time, those activities have greatly helped enhance our country's position in the world.

[Unidentified correspondent] Could you evaluate the normalization of our relations with China?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] The visit to China by a high-level Vietnamese delegation in November 1991 marks the official normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations. In a spirit of turning their backs to the past and looking at the future, both sides unanimously agreed to establish good neighborliness and friendship based on the principles of respect for each other's independence and sovereignty, nonuse of violence or threat of use of violence in bilateral relations, and settlement of disputes and other remaining issues by means of peaceful negotiations, and

on the principles of cooperation, equality, mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. The two sides also agreed that the normalization of bilateral ties would not affect each country's relations with other nations.

Only more than five months have elapsed since the holding of the above-mentioned summit. This is a short time compared with the long history of Sino-Vietnamese relations. However, mutual efforts have brought about encouraging results in the relations between the two countries. So far, besides an agreement on trade cooperation and another agreement on temporary measures to handle border affairs signed at the November 1991 summit, the two sides signed an agreement on economic, scientific, and technological cooperation; another agreement on entry/exit visa exemptions for a number of passports; and other agreements on cooperation in railway, sea, and air transport services, as well as in post and telecommunications. The two sides also agreed to sign an agreement on investment promotion and protection, and another agreement on avoidance of double taxation at an early date. All those agreements have laid the groundwork for promoting cooperation and mutual benefits in many fields, first of all on the economic, trade, and cultural fronts.

A very important fact worth noting is that for the first time a Chinese foreign minister has paid an official visit to Vietnam, and both sides have agreed on an official visit to Vietnam by the Chinese State Council premier, which is scheduled to take place by the end of this year. The normalization and improvement of Sino-Vietnamese relations originate from both sides' needs, and contribute to consolidating the trends of peace, stability, and cooperation in the region.

[Unidentified correspondent] Comrade minister, would you please tell us about our efforts and actions to usher in a new era of relations with the ASEAN countries?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] During the recent visits by Chairman Vo Van Kiet, we made an active approach that was accepted in principle by the ASEAN countries as the basis for the relations between these countries and us.

Proceeding from these principles, and with the aim of laying the groundwork for long-term cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit, we have agreed with the countries in the region to readjust the 1978 accord on economic and trade cooperation to suit the new situation. We have also signed agreements on investment promotion and protection, on double taxation, and on maritime and aviation cooperation.

All the agreements reached during the visits by our high-level delegations have now been further concretized. Representatives of many economic organizations, corporations, groups of companies, and enterprises of the ASEAN countries and Vietnam have met each other to exchange views, explore the situation, and sign many contracts for the exchange of goods, and many agreements on cooperation or investment in many domains,

from agriculture to industry, from the processing industry to heavy industry, and from service to finance and banking.

Along with promoting economic and trade cooperation, both sides have agreed to expand cooperation in the cultural, educational, and other fields. What should be welcomed is the willingness of many ASEAN countries to share with us their experiences in economic management in general and management in a certain number of domains, such as finance and banking.

Following the visit by Chairman Vo Van Kiet, the visits to Vietnam by the Thai prime minister in February 1992, and by the Malaysian prime minister recently are important milestones in the effort to accelerate the process of cooperation for development between us and the countries in the region.

Our country and the ASEAN countries have agreed to solve all the existing issues left behind by history through peaceful negotiations under the spirit of mutual understanding, cooperation, equality, and respect for each other's sovereignty and interests.

Along with developing bilateral relations with each country, we have contributed positively to the process of establishing a mechanism of multilateral cooperation in the region. As a result, all the ASEAN countries have unanimously agreed to welcome the participation of Vietnam in the Bali treaty—a treaty of friendship and cooperation among the Southeast Asian countries that is aimed at consolidating and expanding healthy international relations.

I would like to say further that this is a complex process which requires that efforts be exerted by all the countries concerned to promote mutual understanding, and pay adequate attention to each other's interests.

[Unidentified correspondent] Comrade minister, would you please tell us about the trend of diplomatic activities of our party and state in the days ahead?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] The present world situation has compelled us to confront with great difficulties and, at the same time, has brought about favorable new conditions. In administering activities related to foreign relations, we must exert efforts to overcome difficulties and embrace all favorable conditions and must know how to seize and avail ourselves of an opportunity to build a suitable international environment, as well as to contribute realistically to achieving the general objective of the 1991-95 period, that is, to overcome difficulties, stabilize and develop the economy, stabilize the people's livelihood, and quickly extricate the country from the socioeconomic crisis.

To achieve this objective, on the basis of enhancing the important results that have been recorded, we must cautiously and efficiently administer activities related to international relations in accordance with the motto pointed out by Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi in

his important speech at the recent 11th session of the Eighth National Assembly, which read: Firmly maintain principles while adopting a flexible attitude to suit the development of the international situation and the specific conditions of our country.

We must continue to take the initiative in expanding relations with all countries, while jumping at every possibility we can in accordance with the spirit: Vietnam wants to make friends with all countries in the world community, and will strive for peace, independence, and development.

Seminar on Draft Government Budget Law Held

*BK0505074292 Hanoi VNA in English 0611 GMT
5 May 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 5—A seminar on the draft government budget law has been held here by the Ministry of Finance and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Participating at the seminar were experts of the IMF, the Central Economic Commission of the government, the State Pricing Commission, the National Assembly's office, the people's organ of control, and other institutions concerned. The draft law on government budget has been worked out since the second quarter of 1991, and it is planned to be submitted to the National Assembly for adoption by the end of this year. Mr. F. Sarraf, a law expert of the IMF, has helped Vietnam compile this draft law.

Vo Chi Cong Elected Election Council Chairman

*BK0405132692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 30 Apr 92*

[Text] Mr. Vo Chi Cong was elected chair of the electioneering council to the Ninth National Assembly. The electioneering council meeting also elected Mr. Nguyen Huu Tho and Mr. Le Quang Dao vice chairs of the same council.

The council also adopted a program of work and decided to send some delegations for inspection tours and prepared for the nationwide local elections.

Vo Van Kiet Attends Science, Technology Meeting

*BK0405111792 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network
in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 28 Apr 92*

[Text] Recently, the Council for Policies of the National Science and Technology held a third meeting to continue discussions, and contribute views to the plan prepared by the National Science Commission and Ministry of Education and Training on the rearrangement of science and scientific training organs. Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet and Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers were present at the meeting.

The Council of Ministers chairman expressed his views on the importance of the rearrangement. He stressed that the rearrangement is to make science, technology, and education and training develop more, increase productivity, and better fulfill requirements of the national

renovation cause. He stated that the rearrangement is not to reduce staff or budget expense in science and education undertaking. The government is ready to invest not only 2 percent of the national budget, but also more to science and technology. The point is how to bring better results from the investment.

The members of the council were enthusiastic in their discussion and agreement on viewpoints and regulations in deploying research units to universities. They also prepared a practical plan to submit to the Council of Ministers on deploying research units to universities in the spirit of linking research work with training, reforming the management to meet new national economic structure, quickly learning achievements from international science and technology, and further developing major scientific technology.

Do Muoi Visits Hoang Thach Cement Plant

*BK0405063792 Hanoi VNA in English 0627 GMT
4 May 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 4—Party General Secretary Do Muoi has called on cadres and workers of the Hoang Thach cement plant—representatives of the cement industry in Vietnam, an important economic branch for national construction and development—on the occasion of May Day.

The Hoang Thach cement plant, built and equipped by Denmark with a designed capacity of 1.2 million tonnes/year was put into operation in 1984. Since then, the plant has turned out more than five million tonnes of cement. Particularly in 1991, the plant produced 940,000 tonnes, almost reaching its designed capacity.

At present, the Vietnam Union of Cement Enterprises is planning to install a second production chain at the Hoang Thach plant to raise its capacity to 2.1 million tonnes/year in early 1996.

On the cement industry's task at present, Party General Secretary Do Muoi said:

"This is one of the urgent requirements of the country's economic construction and development." The cement industry throughout the country must strive to meet the demand for cement in construction at home and to have some for export, and to gradually turn out diverse cement products.

"The Union of Cement Enterprises must seek all ways and means to have investment capital to develop the cement industry and to inaugurate the second production chain at the Hoang Thach cement plant as soon as possible. At the same time, attention must be paid to the building of medium and small-sized cement enterprises in various localities to meet on-the-spot demands."

Nguyen Huu Tho Attends Monk's Funeral*BK0305161792 Hanoi VNA in English 1441 GMT
3 May 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—The funeral of the most venerable Thich Don Hau, vice president of the Sangha Council of the Vietnam Buddhist Church, was solemnly held this morning at Linh Mu Pagoda, Hue City, central Vietnam.

Thousands of Buddhist monks, nuns and believers and people from various strata took part in the event.

Present at the funeral were Nguyen Huu Tho, vice president of the State Council and president of the presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee; Nguyen Quyet, State Council vice president; and representatives of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the religious commission of the government, and many localities.

Prominent among the Buddhist dignitaries attending the funeral were the most venerable Thich Mat Hien, vice president of the Sangha Council, and other leaders of the Vietnam Buddhist Church, and representatives of the Buddhist Church Executive boards of the Provinces of Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Tri, Quang Nam-Danang, Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi capital, and many other provinces and cities.

In his funeral oration, Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho, who is also head of the funeral committee, praised the most venerable Thich Don Hau as a devout Buddhist and an ardent patriot who had great contributions to cultivating national concord and solidarity among the Buddhist monks, nuns and believers and the entire people. He was an exemplary master who had helped in training many monks and nuns in service of the church and the country.

After the memorial service, Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho and other party, state and front officials, and high Buddhist dignitaries spread flowers on the coffin of the Most Venerable Thich Don Hau, who died of illness at the age of 87 in Hue City on April 23, 1992. He was buried in a stupa inside Linh Mu Pagoda.

Memorial services for the late most venerable were held in Hanoi today and Ho Chi Minh City yesterday.

Building of 'Democratic', Orderly Life Urged*BK0405143792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 30 Apr 92*

[Editorial in 1 May NHAN DAN: "Work Creatively, Build a Democratic, Orderly, and Disciplined New Life"]

[Text] Today, the Vietnamese people, the working class, and all laborers commemorate the 30 April total victory and International Labor Day, 1 May, at the time when our country has just witnessed the great and important event: the adoption of the SRV 1992 Constitution by the Eighth National Assembly's 11th session.

This fundamental law of our state firmly asserts the determination of our entire party, people, and Armed Forces to continue implementing the renovation undertaking in our country along the socialist orientations set in resolutions of the Sixth and Seventh CPV Congresses. This has once again affirmed our people's impetus to firmly maintain the socialist line and objectives which have been chosen and struggled for by our party, Uncle Ho, and people for more than six decades. To fulfill this sacred goal, our people have endured hardship, and sacrificed flesh and blood to strengthen their unity to fight under the banner of national independence, freedom, and socialism. Thanks to the optimal exploitation of our effort and capability, we won glorious victories in the two wars of resistance against foreign aggressors, thereby totally liberating South Vietnam, reunifying the country, and leading the nation toward socialism.

While upholding the revolutionary heroism in the struggle for national defense and construction, we are striving to overcome step by step the heavy consequences left by the wars, and enthusiastically implement the renovation undertaking set by our party. Thanks to these efforts, we have made initial yet very important achievements.

Despite complicated changes in the international situation, and the enemy's attempt to impose wicked schemes and the peaceful evolution tactic on us, our socialist state still firmly exists, and the political situation throughout the country is stable. This is the decisive factor encouraging us to continue our economic reform, and to step by step renovate our political system. Achievements during the past years in the political, economic, social, national defense, security, and diplomatic domains testify to our party and state's correct lines and policies which are aimed at fulfilling our people's aspirations, making our nation strong, and our people wealthy, and building and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

To achieve the final goal in any revolution, we must encounter repeated obstacles in daily life. As a result, we must strive to discover contradictions in our system to promptly formulate measures to overcome them to create a new force to accelerate the revolution. In this context, while acknowledging our important achievements in the renovation undertaking, we must profoundly realize our weaknesses, mistakes, and shortcomings in the organization and implementation of tasks. What cause prime concern to our patriots at present are the prevailing corruption, bribery, and smuggling; the unstabilized social order and safety; the loose observance of rules and regulations in the socioeconomic activities; and the increase in violations to the state law and party disciplines.

To urgently and resolutely overcome these negative phenomena is one of the pressing tasks in implementing the renovation undertaking, and in building and defending the fatherland. Efforts to strictly abide by the party disciplines and the state law, and to maintain social order and safety are the fundamental and pressing

tasks which will effectively contribute to building and strengthening our party, the state apparatus, and mass organizations at present.

We must work diligently and creatively to obtain high productivity and best results while striving to implement the state policies, and abide by the state law. Achievements made in these tasks will determine the revolutionary quality of each cadre, worker, and civil servant. With our efforts to launch seething revolutionary action movements at sectors and in localities, and our endeavor

to overcome all shortcomings, we will surely attain new achievements, eliminate negative phenomena, and create favorable conditions for our renovation undertaking.

To commemorate these two major anniversaries today, our entire people—with a high sense of responsibility—are striving to prepare for, and enthusiastically participate in, the general elections of the Ninth National Assembly to be held on 19 July 1992.

Australia

Government Sending Extra Forces to Cambodia

*BK0505100092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0716 GMT
5 May 92*

[Text] Canberra, May 5 (AFP)—Australia has agreed to an urgent request from the United Nations to send an additional 30 troops to Cambodia, Defence Minister Robert Ray said Tuesday.

A spokesman for Ray's office said the soldiers' job was to help speed up the deployment of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), which is in danger of falling behind schedule.

In New York on Monday, the U.N. special envoy for Cambodia reported "certain delays" in deploying UNTAC, whose numbers are due to increase from 4,000 today to 15,600 by June.

The envoy, Yasushi Akashi, said troops originally due to travel to Cambodia by ship would be airlifted there instead.

Ray's spokesman, Peter La Franchi, said "the U.N. needs to get those people into the field as soon as possible and we're dealing with a lot of bottlenecks."

"The United Nations has requested Australia provide urgently for the UNTAC a movement control unit of 30 personnel for a period of four months," Ray told parliament here.

The troops will be ready to move by the end of this week and will be based at sea and airport locations around Cambodia and at Bangkok, Ray said.

They will work in teams of three, La Franchi explained.

Australia has committed 500 soldiers from all three services to UNTAC. So far about 180 of them have arrived in Cambodia.

Modest Growth, Economic Forecasts Rejected

*BK0105051092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0323 GMT
1 May 92*

[By Robert Holloway]

[Text] Sydney, May 1 (AFP)—The government Friday dismissed as "irrelevant" and "dated" the latest OECD forecast of modest growth in the Australian economy and persisting high unemployment.

A survey by the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) published Thursday in Paris predicted the Australian economy would grow by two percent in calendar 1992 and by 3.2 percent next year.

The government's February economic policy statement, entitled One Nation, forecast zero growth in the year ending June 30, 1992, but 4.75 percent growth in the following twelve months.

The OECD said the government had an "excellent record in debt reduction, tariff and agricultural reforms" but must hold down inflation while speeding up structural reforms to avoid another cycle of "boom and bust."

It said the "high short-term cost" of Australia's exceptionally low inflation was a jobless rate which would reach 10.6 percent and might remain above 10 percent through 1993.

Inflation was zero in the first quarter of this year and the annual rate is now 1.7 percent, the lowest for two decades.

Finance Minister Ralph Willis said the OECD had failed to take account of the government's proposals to spend 2.3 billion dollars (1.7 billion U.S.) over four years.

Spending, mostly on major infrastructure projects, is designed to create 800,000 jobs. There are currently more than 910,000 unemployed in Australia.

Speaking in a radio interview Friday, Willis said the survey had been prepared before the release of One Nation and that "its forecasts are just irrelevant to the current circumstances."

He said the government accepted criticism in the OECD report about the slow pace of micro-economic reform and the lack of productivity growth, but was confident the 1990s would bring major improvements.

"We accept that productivity hasn't been growing fast but the basis is there now for much higher levels of productivity growth in the '90s than we had in the '80s," Willis said.

Treasurer John Dawkins, the senior minister in charge of economic policy, dismissed the report as "dated and clearly understated."

In a statement, Dawkins said the projections did not take into account growth of 0.3 percent in December quarter, when Australia technically came out of recession.

Dawkins said the government agreed that low inflation had to be locked in, but rejected the OECD's call on it to follow the example of New Zealand and Canada and set explicit low inflation targets for the Reserve Bank.

"The value of such an approach depends on a range of factors and experience from which it is too recent for any general lessons to be drawn," he said.

The opposition was quick to conscript the OECD's findings to its attack.

Opposition leader John Hewson said One Nation "has no validity as a serious economic statement."

Shadow Treasurer, Peter Reith, added: "There is no doubt that the OECD's view is that economic growth will be nowhere near the government's projections, no matter on what exact date their projections were prepared."

Fiji

Press Condemns New Libel Law Proposal

BK0405005392 Hong Kong AFP in English 0013 GMT
4 May 92

[Text] Suva, May 4 (AFP)—The Fijian press condemned Monday a proposal by the government on the eve of a general election to make libel a crime punishable by up to two years in jail.

Urging President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau not to sign the measure into law, the country's principal newspaper, THE FIJI TIMES, said the law was "bound to have a chilling effect on freedom of speech, a fundamental right guaranteed under the U.N. Charter that Fiji has acceded to."

Details of the law were given to reporters by Lands Minister William Toganivalu, who said it was approved last Tuesday at the cabinet's final meeting.

Voting starts May 23 in the first election since 1987, when Fiji's last elected government was toppled in a military coup.

Anyone publishing "defamatory matter without lawful excuse, with intent to cause serious harm to any person" is guilty of criminal libel, Toganivalu said. The offence is punishable by a fine of 2,000 dollars (1,350 U.S.) or a maximum of two years imprisonment, or both, he added.

THE FIJI TIMES said the decree was unnecessary.

"There are adequate laws on our statute books for bringing irresponsible journalists to face the music," the newspaper said in an editorial.

"In such an atmosphere of fear and distrust a free press cannot function and this would be detrimental to the well being of society," it continued.

Robert Keith-Reid, publisher of ISLANDS BUSINESS magazine, said there was "no call for the decree."

He said it would be difficult to prove malicious intent, because "newspapers simply quote unethical, dishonest, and racist politicians."

Papua New Guinea

Bougainville Army Said Calling for 'Urgent Talks'

BK0205100292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] The Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA] has reportedly called for urgent talks with the Papua New Guinea [PNG] Government to settle the secessionist dispute. Brian Abbott reports from Port Moresby that the reported call follows renewed clashes in Bougainville in recent weeks in which at least two PNG soldiers and at least 15 rebels had been killed.

[Begin Abbott recording] National radio in Port Moresby quoting reports from Bougainville, says the call for urgent talks with the PNG Government followed a recent meeting of BRA commanders. The report suggested Honiara, the Solomon Islands capital, as the venue for the meeting and said the PNG delegation must be led by deputy prime minister, Akoka Doi, who was honored and had a commitment to solve the Bougainville crisis.

The premier of the self-proclaimed interim government of Bougainville, Joseph Kabui, was quoted as saying the meeting could help end the breakdown in relations between the PNG and the Solomon Islands over Bougainville.

Mr. Doi was requested to lead the PNG delegation apparently because he was the only non-Bougainville minister in the PNG Government who has met revolution leader, Francis Ona. [end recording]

Namaliu Offers Troops, Police to Bougainville

BK3004091692 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0800 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] The Papua New Guinea Government says it is prepared to send troops or police to southern Bougainville if requested by community leaders. Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu says people in southern Bougainville are subjected to harassment and intimidation by some members of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army. [BRA]

Mr. Namaliu said the information the government was getting from southern Bougainville was that the people wanted to break from the BRA and set up a council to run their own affairs.

Mr. Namaliu promised extra government assistance to ensure the BRA did not regain influence in southern Bougainville after seven community leaders there were murdered.

